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ABSTRACT

This KIDS COUNT factbook presents statistical data and examines trends for several indicators of children's well-being in Vermont. Four groups of indicators are examined: (1) economic security, including child population, child poverty, number of children receiving Aid to Needy Families with Children (ANFC) and food stamps, number of children approved for free and reduced lunches, and regulated child care slots; (2) education, including number of dropouts; (3) family health, including child deaths, teen violent deaths, infant mortality, low-birthweight babies, prenatal care, new families at risk, and births to teens; and (4) child protection, including child abuse and neglect and children in custody. Section 1 of the report, "Introduction," introduces Vermont KIDS COUNT and gives an overview of the indicators. Section 2, "Overview and Findings," defines the indicators and presents statistical data for each of them. In addition, a summary of 1990 census indicators is included that relates to ethnic and racial diversity, median family income, children in single-parent families, working mothers, teens not in school and not in the labor force, and educational attainment of adults. Section 3 of the report, "County by County," presents the trends of indicators for each of the 12 counties of the state. Finally, the appendix includes notes on statistics and methodology. (AA)

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Vermont KIDS COUNT is a collaborative effort with the Vermont Agency of Human Services and Department of Education, and the Center for Rural Studies at the University of Vermont.

Additional copies of *The State of our Children: Kids Count in Vermont* are available for $10 each from: Vermont KIDS COUNT
Vermont Children's Forum, P.O. Box 261, Montpelier, VT 05601; 802-229-6377.

Internet Information

The 1994 Kids Count Data Book can also be found on the University of Vermont's gopher server at gopher.uvm.edu. At the main menu, choose "Vermont Gophers and Information Resources," then "Center for Rural Studies Community Development Information." Or try the Center for Rural Studies World Wide Web page at http://www.uvm.edu/ ~cdae/crs.

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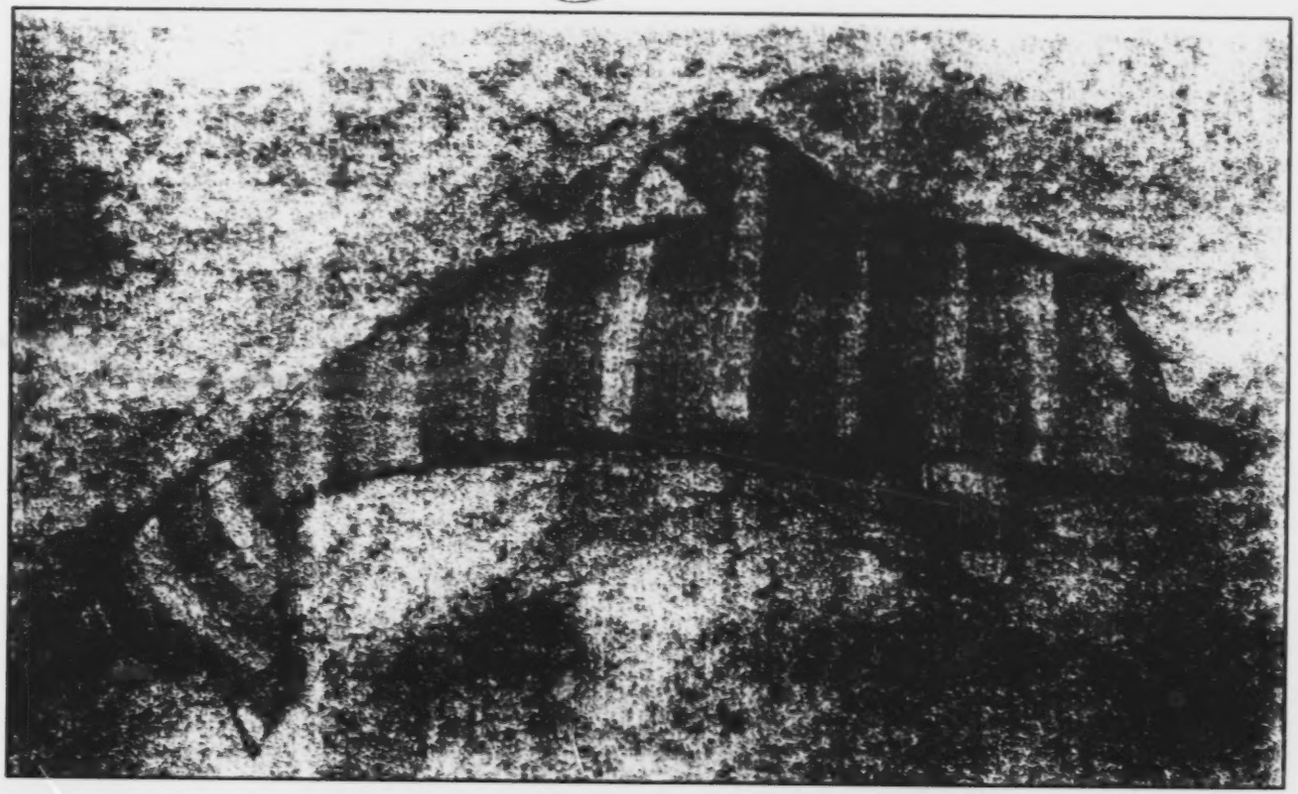
The State of Our Children

1994
Data Book



Kids Count in Vermont

Prepared by
The Vermont Children's Forum

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Introduction

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About Vermont KIDS COUNT

Vermont KIDS COUNT is a four year project to collect and analyze state data on child welfare. It is funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the nation's largest funding institution committed to support for disadvantaged children. Vermont KIDS COUNT is a project of the Vermont Children's Forum, the state's only private non-partisan child advocacy organization.

Vermont KIDS COUNT is a unique collaborative effort of the Vermont Agency of Human Services, the Vermont Department of Education and the University of Vermont's Center for Rural Studies. Volunteer committees have guided the selection of the indicators and the design and distribution of the data book. KIDS COUNT volunteers include representatives of private, non-profit, government and educational agencies, as well as business people and individuals.

Goals of Vermont KIDS COUNT

The goals of Vermont KIDS COUNT include the creation of an on-line database; publication of this annual report of social, economic, health and educational data; development of a campaign to increase public awareness of issues affecting child well-being, including a series of special reports; and participation in the Vermont Children's Forum's Agenda for Vermont's Children and Families.

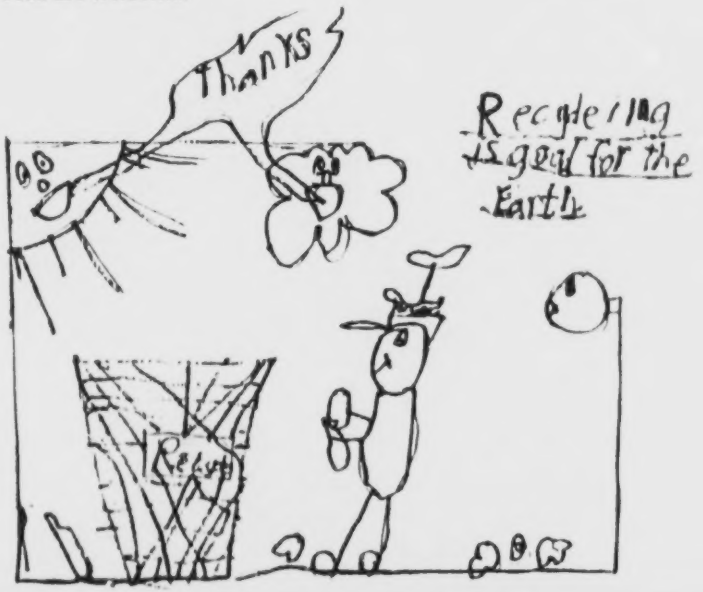
This is the second annual Vermont Kids Count Data Book which examines child well-being data on both the state and local levels. Local and state analysis is critical to identifying the problems faced by Vermont's children and families which may be overshadowed by national studies which tend to rank the status of Vermont's children high compared with other states. *The State of Our Children* offers a more in-depth look at the needs of Vermont's children and families through data reported in numbers, percentages and by comparison over time.

Kids and Vermont KIDS COUNT

Part of KIDS COUNT outreach includes working with children to get their perspective and hear their voices. Thus, art work, photography and words throughout this book are theirs. In this publication we asked children around Vermont to tell us how they would make the world a better place.

Vermont KIDS COUNT: Future Plans

Future plans for KIDS COUNT include assistance with the development of statewide community outreach and planning through *An Agenda for Vermont's Children and Families* and implementation of a Kids Count Indicators database. Future plans also involve publication of special reports on childhood hunger, a summary compilation of Vermont services which work to solve problems highlighted by the Kids Count Indicators and the inclusion of additional indicators in future data books. Comments about this report and suggestions for future data books are welcome.

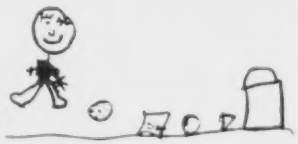


Foreword

We asked Vermont children to answer the question: How would you make things better for kids? One child answered:

What would make a better world:

- Clean up the trash.
- Donate food to people.
- Fix up the playground.
- Donate water to people.
- Donate milk to people.
- Help people walk.
- Be good to animals.
- Help people work.
- Help people learn things.



The insight and awareness of the children's voices in this book show a clear understanding of their own needs and the needs of others in today's world. Their thoughtful drawings and responses give a human face to the facts and numbers reported in this data book. These facts and numbers reveal the troubling trend of increasing child poverty in Vermont and, therefore, a higher risk of poor outcomes for our children. If we truly believe that children are our future, we must be vigilant about their present.

The *State of Our Children, 1994 Data Book* compiles and summarizes 23 indicators of child well-being in the areas of economic security, education, child protection, and family health. Kids Count indicators are data which present information on specific aspects of child well-being. The 1994 data book includes nine new indicators of child well being as well as fourteen of the fifteen indicators included in the 1993 edition. All the indicators have been updated with the exception of data based on the 1990 Census.

The book is divided into three sections: Overview and Findings, County-by-County and Appendix. The Overview and Findings section includes descriptions of new and updated indicators and 1990 Census data. The County-By-County pages present snapshots of data by county* and the Appendix contains information on data sources and methodology. The indicators selected for analysis in this book are:

Child Protection

- Child Abuse and Neglect
- Children in Custody

Economic Security

- Children Eligible to Receive Free and Reduced Lunches
- Children in Households Receiving ANFC
- Children in Households Receiving Food Stamps
- Child Poverty Rate
- Regulated Child Care Slots

Education

- Drop Outs per High School

Family Health

- Births to Teens
- Births to Single Teens
- Child Deaths
- Early Prenatal Care
- Infant Mortality
- Low Birthweight Babies
- New Families at Risk
- Teen Violent Deaths

1990 Census Data

- Children in Single-Parent Families
- Educational Attainment of Adults
- Median Family Income
- Teens Not in School and Not in the Labor Force
- Working Parents

** Essex County and Orleans County data and Franklin County and Grand Isle County data have been combined in this edition.*

Data Information

Introduction to the Indicators

Throughout this book, the term "indicators" describes data which help identify child and family well-being. KIDS COUNT does not conduct surveys or gather direct data. All indicators are collected from existing data from a number of sources, including the U.S. Bureau of the Census and Vermont state agencies.

KIDS COUNT facts are collected on a town, rather than a state or county level, to allow for flexibility in presenting information. For this report, town data are combined to show both county and state perspectives.

New Data on Child Economic Well-Being

One of the problems of providing accurate data is the lack of up-to-date information, especially on child poverty. The source of child poverty facts in the United States is the Census. Census data are measured in two ways: once a decade (decennial) survey, and in much smaller surveys of the population, every year. The difficulty with using annual data based on small population samples is that, in states like Vermont with modest populations, the results may not be reliable for the state as a whole. That is why data from the decennial Census are used as benchmarks.

Last year's 1993 Kids Count Data Book showed a decline in Vermont's child poverty rate between 1979 and 1989, the most recent years measured by the decennial census. However, this year's report presents mathematical estimates of annual child poverty figures, calculated by the KIDS COUNT Project's data analyst, showing a steady increase in child poverty rates between 1989 and 1993. This trend is consistent with patterns shown by our other new indicators of child economic well-being: children in households receiving ANFC benefits; children in households receiving Food Stamp benefits; and children eligible for free and reduced lunches.

Understanding Kids Count Information

Averaging Numbers

For the 1994 Data Book, KIDS COUNT reviewed the trends of indicators during the 1980s and early 1990s. For many indicators, data for several years were averaged or aggregated to provide more reliable figures for data that may fluctuate greatly from year to year. Numbers for some of the indicators may refer to aggregation of data for a three-year period. For example, the number of infant deaths in the 1980 to 1982 period is presented as the average number of infant deaths for the years 1980, 1981, and 1982. The infant mortality rate for the same period is calculated by summing the total number of infant deaths in 1980, 1981, and 1982, dividing by the sum of live births in 1980, 1981, and 1982, and multiplying by 1,000.

Numbers that were averaged across years have been rounded off, while most rates have been carried out to one decimal place. Readers can refer to the tables or the Appendix for specific information such as the years used for averaging and methodology.

Combining County Data

Small populations in areas of the state provide us with two challenges. First is the issue of reliability. The number of children classified within some of our indicator categories is often too small to provide reliable information. Second is the issue of confidentiality. Providing information showing a very small number of children with certain characteristics can lead to their actual identification locally. Because Essex and Grand Isle have very small populations, Vermont KIDS COUNT has combined data from these counties with data from adjoining counties. State agency reports often combine Essex with Orleans and Grand Isle with Franklin for these same reasons, and we follow their convention in this data book.

A Caution About Drawing Conclusions

The key in the evaluation of statistics is to examine everything in context. The data challenge stereotypes, pushing us to look beyond the surface for the less obvious reasons for the numbers. Individual indicators, like the rest of life's concerns, don't exist in a vacuum and can't be reduced to a set of best and worst counties.

Where county level data are presented, readers can see whether rates are "high" or "low", relative to the state rate, or in comparison with other county rates. However, while regional rates do provide a useful "snapshot" of conditions for a particular time-period, their reliability in inferring stable differences between one region and another is uncertain. For this report, the significance of any such differences was not subjected to statistical testing.

Overview and Findings

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Overview

Vermont is a wonderful state with traditions of innovative thinking, direct participation in government and often, fierce independence. The Vermont Constitution was the first to ban slavery and provide for a system of public education. The first Headstart program in the nation was launched in a small town in Franklin County and numerous other firsts are spread throughout our state.

The purpose of this report is to provide data on indicators of child well-being. We are a state that historically has dedicated resources to improving the lives of children. And, as the data show, we must continue to provide leadership in caring for our children because there is still much more to do.

For most of Vermont's children our state is a good place for children to live and grow. According to national KIDS COUNT data, Vermont compares favorably with the majority of national indicators of child well-being. Yet despite our good record and a rank of seven among all states, we know there are thousands of Vermont children facing serious problems. They are some of the many children who live in poverty, are victims of abuse and neglect, drop out of school or start life at risk due to low birthweight or because their mothers are themselves children.

Additional and updated indicators for this data book reveal the effects of declining economic conditions on Vermont children and families that became evident by the early 1990s. In 1989 more than 16,000 children were living in poverty and during the subsequent four years **the number of children living in poverty has increased to over 23,000 children.** This is supported by increasing numbers of children living in households that received assistance through Aid to Needy Families with Children (ANFC). Similar increases were even stronger for children receiving Food Stamps and in the numbers of children approved by schools for free or reduced-price lunches.

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This report also highlights other indicators of family stress. Children are entering state custody in record numbers throughout Vermont. Our low birthweight rate does not show significant improvement. Finally, the *New Families at Risk* indicator reveals an alarming increase in the number of single teen mothers, young women who are the least likely to receive early prenatal care. They are also the most likely to have low birthweight babies and be at high risk of not completing high school.

The data tell the story that the number of Vermont children living in poverty has been increasing through the 1990s. Many of the indicators in this data book reflect poor outcomes which occur more frequently in poor families. Very often poor outcomes are interconnected, leaving children at risk for multiple problems. Teen child bearing, infant mortality, malnutrition, incidents of abuse and neglect, dropping out of high school, poorer health indicators during childhood are outcomes many of our children now experience or are at risk for in the future.

As the status of children in Vermont continues to deteriorate, the challenge we face as parents, community members, employers and public officials is to maintain our enduring commitment to children and work collaboratively on their behalf. This data book is dedicated to Vermont's unique history of independent thinking and neighbor helping neighbor.

"Let us put our minds together and see what life we will make for our children"

Sitting Bull, Lakota Sioux

I think children's lives would be better if adults sat down with their children and listened to the child's ideas and took them into consideration rather than just listening, thinking it was dumb, and forgetting about it.

Findings

Economic Security

Child Population

Children and youth make up a little more than a quarter of the population in Vermont. In this report, children are defined as residents 17 years old and younger. Child Poverty and Child Population Tables reveal two important trends. First, while the child population figures declined slightly throughout the 1980s and into the 1990s, both the number and rate of children living in poverty has increased during the 1990s. Increased numbers of children receiving ANFC and Food Stamp benefits (Tables 3 and 4) reveal other indicators of declining child well-being.

Table 1

Child Population

Number and percentage of total population

County	1980 Number	1980 Percent	1990 Number	1990 Percent	1993 Number	1993 Percent	Percent change in rate
Addison	8,616	29.3	8,601	26.1	8,687	24.8	1.0 ↑
Bennington	9,330	28.0	8,993	25.1	8,981	25.1	-0.1 ↓
Caledonia	7,585	29.4	7,680	27.6	7,758	27.5	1.0 ↑
Chittenden	31,792	27.5	30,816	23.4	31,179	22.8	1.2 ↑
Essex-Orleans	9,627	31.1	8,532	28.0	8,485	27.1	-0.6 ↓
Franklin-Grand Isle	12,638	32.1	13,191	29.1	13,399	28.3	1.6 ↑
Lamoille	4,830	28.8	5,072	25.7	5,121	24.8	1.0 ↑
Orange	6,845	30.1	7,242	27.7	7,432	28.4	2.6 ↑
Rutland	15,825	27.1	14,993	24.1	14,932	23.8	-0.4 ↓
Washington	14,642	27.9	13,940	25.4	13,929	24.9	-0.1 ↓
Windham	10,055	27.2	10,630	25.6	10,646	25.1	0.2 ↑
Windsor	13,893	27.2	13,393	24.8	13,416	25.2	0.2 ↑
Vermont	145,318	28.4	143,083	25.4	143,965	25.0	0.6 ↑

It would be better for kids like me if kids wouldn't tease other kids about the way they looked or acted and everybody would try to be friends with everybody else. I could help make it that way by being nice to every body else and hopefully they would be nice in return.

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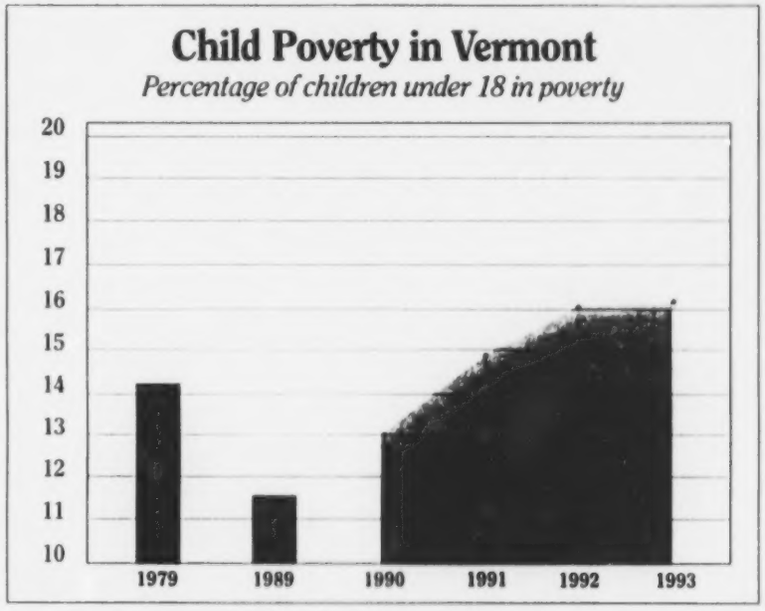

Table 2

Child Poverty

Percentage of children under 18 in poverty

County	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	Percent change 1989-1993
Addison	11.3	12.0	12.3	14.3	14.1	19.9 ↑
Bennington	16.1	15.7	17.5	18.5	17.9	10.1 ↑
Caledonia	15.7	17.1	19.5	20.1	20.4	23.0 ↑
Chittenden	8.0	9.3	11.0	12.1	11.8	32.2 ↑
Essex-Orleans	18.2	18.6	20.8	21.8	22.3	18.4 ↑
Franklin-Grand Isle	12.6	13.9	15.5	15.9	16.6	24.1 ↑
Lamoille	12.0	17.2	17.8	19.0	19.6	38.8 ↑
Orange	11.2	14.1	17.0	17.7	17.8	37.1 ↑
Rutland	10.8	13.0	15.4	16.7	17.4	37.9 ↑
Washington	9.9	11.9	14.2	15.3	15.2	34.9 ↑
Windham	12.2	14.4	16.2	17.4	16.9	27.8 ↑
Windsor	10.9	11.2	14.1	15.4	15.5	29.7 ↑
Vermont	11.5	13.0	14.9	16.0	16.1	28.6 ↑

Child Poverty

Over 23,000 Vermont children are living below the poverty threshold, an increase of 43 percent in the number of Vermont children living in poverty between 1989 and 1993.

"We're learning that poverty imperils children in so many ways. We are really talking about the health and productivity of the next generation."
Arloc Sherman, Analyst, Children's Defense Fund

The percent of children living in poverty is a vital indicator of overall child well-being because it is a significant predictor of poor outcomes for children. Poverty has devastating effects. Children who are poor face a greater likelihood of poor health, inadequate nutrition and developmental delays. Children who grow up in poverty are more than twice as likely to experience such problems as stunted growth, severe physical or mental disabilities, iron deficiency and severe asthma. Poor children are more than twice as likely to not complete high school as other children. Even when researchers took into account other factors influencing school performance, like parents' educational levels, living in a single-parent home, or having a teen parent, data show that each year a child lives in poverty increases by two percentage points the chances that he or she will fall behind in school and reduces two percentage points the likelihood that the child will finish high school by age 19. (*The State of America's Children: 1995 Yearbook*, Children's Defense Fund.)

The chart above at left clearly shows the increasing number of Vermont children living in poverty. In 1979 almost 14 percent of Vermont Children lived in poverty, dropping to 11.3 percent in 1989. Yet during the 1990s Vermont's child poverty rate has steadily increased to an alarming 16.1 percent, or over 23,000 Vermont children, living in poverty.

For a detailed report on child poverty please see the Vermont Children's Forum publication, *Children and Poverty in Vermont.*

Children Receiving ANFC and Food Stamp Benefits

The 1993 Kids Count Data Book could only present 1989 data on child poverty from the U.S. Census, but noted that child poverty rates in subsequent years were likely to be much higher due to the economic recession that began in the 1990s. Consistent with our data on children receiving ANFC, Food Stamps and Free and Reduced Lunches, our recently calculated estimates show a steady decline in child well-being since the last official census measure of child poverty in 1989.

The number and percent of Vermont children receiving ANFC benefits increased substantially in the early 1990s. Similar trends were more pronounced for the Food Stamp program. Between 1990 and 1993, both the number and percentage of children in households receiving Food Stamps increased by 50 percent. In 1993, 61 percent of all ANFC recipients were children and in the same year 44 percent of all Food Stamp recipients were children.

Table 3

Children Under 18 Receiving ANFC Benefits

County	1990 Number	1990 Percent	1993 Number	1993 Percent	Percent change in rate
Addison	593	6.9	738	8.5	23.2 ↑
Bennington	1,068	11.8	1,200	13.4	13.6 ↑
Caledonia	905	11.8	1,136	14.6	23.7 ↑
Chittenden	2,661	8.6	3,352	10.8	25.6 ↑
Essex-Orleans	1,137	13.3	1,378	16.2	21.8 ↑
Franklin-G.I.	1,434	10.8	1,731	12.9	19.4 ↑
Lamoille	451	8.9	547	10.7	20.2 ↑
Orange	607	8.4	863	11.6	38.1 ↑
Rutland	1,559	10.4	2,159	14.5	39.4 ↑
Washington	1,255	9.0	1,664	11.9	32.2 ↑
Windham	1,188	11.1	1,391	13.1	18.0 ↑
Windsor	1,142	8.5	1,657	12.4	45.9 ↑
Vermont	14,110	9.8	17,980	12.5	27.6 ↑

Table 4

Children Under 18 in Households Receiving Food Stamp Benefits

County	1990 Number	1990 Rate	1993 Number	1993 Rate	Percent change in rate
Addison	812	9.4	1,263	14.5	54.3 ↑
Bennington	1,284	14.2	1,719	19.1	34.5 ↑
Caledonia	1,197	15.5	1,788	23.0	48.4 ↑
Chittenden	2,748	8.9	4,217	13.5	51.7 ↑
Essex-Orleans	1,586	18.6	2,260	26.6	43.0 ↑
Franklin-Grand Isle	1,811	13.7	2,570	19.2	40.1 ↑
Lamoille	625	12.3	912	17.8	44.7 ↑
Orange	815	11.2	1,358	18.3	63.4 ↑
Rutland	1,871	12.4	3,043	20.4	64.5 ↑
Washington	1,542	11.0	2,294	16.5	50.0 ↑
Windham	1,441	13.5	1,971	18.5	37.0 ↑
Windsor	1,376	10.3	2,315	17.3	68.0 ↑
Vermont	17,232	12.0	25,876	18.0	50.0 ↑

Students Approved to Receive Free and Reduced Lunches

The school lunch program is a federally funded program designed to address the serious problem of childhood hunger and undernutrition. Studies[1] have shown a definite correlation between nutrition and learning in children. School lunch has been shown to positively effect children's attendance and improved achievement test results (when children received adequate caloric intake). School lunch also helps address behavioral concerns that can be caused by hunger by helping to reduce nervousness, irritability, lethargy and an inability to concentrate.

In order to be approved for free and reduced-price lunches a student's household income must meet specific federal poverty guidelines. Household income must be below 130 percent of the poverty level for no cost lunches and below 185 percent of guidelines for reduced-price lunches. This indicator therefore provides one more measure of children in economically distressed families. Consistent with the annual estimates of child poverty rates (table 2), the percent of children approved for free and reduced lunches increased dramatically during the early 1990s. For the state as a whole, the percent of eligible children increased by nearly one third (32.3 percent) between 1989 and 1993. More than 7,000 children became eligible during that period.

While the data show a 32 percent increase in free and reduced lunch-eligible students it is important to note that the number of students receiving lunches would have been even higher for two main reasons. First, not all families who are eligible apply, some because of the fear of being stigmatized and some because families lack information about the program. Second, in 1993, 46 schools did not participate in the school lunch program in Vermont. We know a percentage of the approximately 6,000 children enrolled in these schools would be eligible for free or reduced-priced lunches.

Table 5

Students Receiving School Lunch Program

Number and percentage of students approved for free and reduced price lunches

County	1989 Number	1989 Rate	1993 Number	1993 Rate	Percent change in rate
Addison	637	14.5	1,129	24.3	67.6 ↑
Bennington	862	16.3	1,222	23.8	46.0 ↑
Caledonia	1,124	27.5	1,645	33.7	22.5 ↑
Chittenden	2,340	12.2	3,279	16.4	34.4 ↑
Essex-Orleans	1,719	34.4	2,523	40.2	16.9 ↑
Franklin-Grand Isle	1,957	21.7	2,699	28.4	30.9 ↑
Lamoille	670	19.9	1,035	28.0	40.7 ↑
Orange	1,021	22.6	1,698	30.8	36.3 ↑
Rutland	1,636	18.1	2,503	24.5	35.4 ↑
Washington	1,610	17.4	2,010	20.8	19.5 ↑
Windham	831	23.5	1,324	25.1	6.8 ↑
Windsor	1,432	16.7	2,057	22.0	31.7 ↑
Vermont	15,839	18.6	23,124	24.6	32.3 ↑

Regulated Child Care Slots

Regulated child care refers to licensed early childhood centers or registered family day care homes which are regulated by the state of Vermont. Family day care homes are registered through a self-certification process which determines compliance with state health and safety regulations; early childhood centers must also meet state regulations to receive a three year renewable license.

Between 1989 and 1992, the number of regulated child care slots in Vermont increased by 24 percent. This trend reflects a response to the growing need for quality child care that was documented in the 1993 KIDS COUNT Data Book. Increases in the number and percentage of mothers in the workforce and children in single parent families (see tables 25-27) illustrate the dramatic changes in family economics that have been taking place since the early 1980s.

Quality child care[2] services are a critical requirement of an increasing number of Vermont families and children. A recent study[1] determined that to provide good quality child care, programs must ensure that the health and safety needs of the children are met, all children receive warmth and support from adults and learning takes place in many ways through fun and interesting activities. Vermont's regulations for licensed and registered care assist in the process of promoting quality day care services. Unfortunately, data showing what percentage of all Vermont child care services are regulated are not available.

I would give kids flashlights because kids are scared of the dark.

Table 6

Regulated Child Care Slots

1989-1992

County	1989	1990	1991	1992
Addison	550	742	923	997
Bennington	793	983	1,064	1,098
Caledonia	889	1,006	1,060	1,059
Chittenden	5,214	5,784	6,317	6,397
Essex-Orleans	784	929	963	925
Franklin-G.I.	1,083	1,287	1,488	1,445
Lamoille	722	803	883	843
Orange	565	605	657	627
Rutland	1,218	1,302	1,536	1,506
Washington	2,191	2,332	2,512	2,541
Windham	1,251	1,370	1,505	1,563
Windsor	1,264	1,412	1,477	1,555
Vermont	16,524	18,555	20,385	20,556

Education

Number of Dropouts

Vermont's dropout rate*, for any given school year, has remained steady for the past ten years, rising slightly from 4.3 percent to 4.7 percent between 1982 and 1992.

For the nearly one in twenty Vermont students who drop out of high school, in any given year, the potential economic and social consequences are extremely alarming. Compared with high school graduates, dropouts are twice as likely to be unemployed and live in poverty[4]. A 1989 report by the Vermont Governor's Team on Dropout Prevention, "Dropouts in Vermont, A Charge for Action", reveals that annual earnings of high school dropouts are substantially lower than graduates[5] and we know this income disparity continues to increase annually. The 1993 Annual Report by the Vermont Department of Education, "The Condition of Education in Vermont" notes that 80 percent of incarcerated Vermonters are high school dropouts and the same percent of runaways in Vermont have dropped out of school while 35 percent of welfare recipients also did not complete high school.

**According to the Vermont Department of Education, the dropout rate is closer to 18 percent when each class (from grade 9 through grade 12) is tracked over a four year period.*

I would make things better for kids by teaching them more about the computer so they can learn more.

I think there shauld be more sports prolects and equipment also I think there shauld be longer recesses

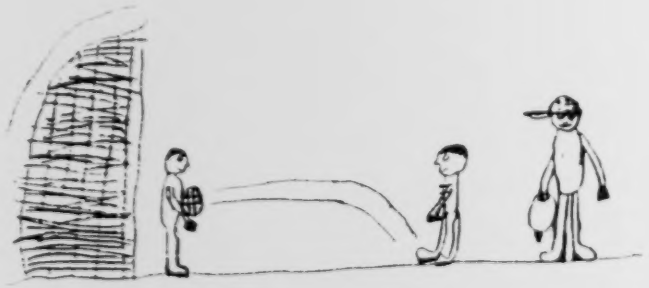

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Table 7

Dropouts per High School

Location of High School	Name of High School	1982[1] Number	1982[1] Percent	1992[2] Number	1992[2] Percent
Arlington	Arlington Memorial H.S.	5	3.0	5	3.3
Barre	Spaulding High School	53	4.6		
	Spaulding UHSD #41			53	5.9
Barton	Lake Region UHSD #24	15	3.7	20	4.5
Bennington	Mt. Anthony UHSD #14	78	5.7	87	7.2
Bethel	Whitcomb H.S.	5	3.5	5	3.8
Bradford	Oxbow UHSD #30	9	2.6	16	4.3
Brandon	Otter Valley UHSD #8	26	5.3	25	5.6
Brattleboro	Brattleboro UHSD #6	49	4.6	64	7.0
Bristol	Mt. Abraham UHSD #28	22	4.3	27	5.6
Burlington	Burlington H.S.	106	7.7	97	9.6
Cabot	Cabot H.S.	4	5.9	1	1.6
Canaan	Canaan Memorial H.S.	3	2.2	4	3.5
Chelsea	Chelsea H.S.	1	1.1	5	3.3
Chester	Green Mountain UHSD #35	19	6.1	12	4.1
Clarendon	Mill River UHSD #40	15	2.7	14	2.6
Colchester	Colchester H.S.	39	4.1	24	3.4
Concord	Concord H.S.	10	8.6	3	3.0
Craftsbury	Craftsbury Academy	2	2.5	1	1.6
Danville	Danville H.S.	3	1.7	1	1.1
Duxbury	Harwood UHSD #19	28	5.1	17	3.5
East Montpelier	UHSD #32	27	4.9	18	3.1
Enosburg Falls	Enosburg Falls H.S.	9	3.7	7	2.7
Essex Junction	Essex Junction H.S.	55	3.8	35	3.0
Fair Haven	Fair Haven UHSD #16	15	2.9	25	4.8
Fairfax	Bellows Free Academy	9	3.5	6	2.4
Hardwick	Hazen UHSD #26	16	5.6	10	3.8
Hartford	Hartford H.S.	37	5.7	44	6.9
Hinesburg	Champlain Valley UHSD #15	13	1.3	15	2.0
Hyde Park	Lamoille UHSD #18	42	8.7	20	4.0
Jericho	Mt. Mansfield UHSD #17	19	2.4	17	2.5
Ludlow	Black River UHSD #39	10	5.3	5	3.1
Lyndon Center	Lyndon Institute	23	4.3	18	3.3
Manchester	Burr & Burton Seminary	13	3.3	7	2.3
Marshfield	Twinfield UHSD #33	9	5.2	3	2.4
Middlebury	Middlebury UHSD #3	30	3.9	39	5.8
Milton	Milton H.S.	24	4.0	28	5.2
Montpelier	Montpelier H.S.	18	3.5	13	3.4
Morrisville	Peoples Academy	14	4.6	7	2.4
Newport	North Country UHSD #22	43	4.2	57	5.7
Northfield	Northfield H.S.	8	2.5	3	1.3
Poultney	Poultney H.S.	6	2.7	5	3.7
Proctor	Proctor H.S.	3	1.7	2	1.8
Randolph	Randolph UHSD #2	23	5.9	25	6.9
Richford	Richford H.S.	10	5.1	11	5.6
Rochester	Rochester H.S.	6	6.0	3	3.7
Rockingham	Bellows Falls UHSD #27	32	5.9	23	5.6
Royalton	South Royalton H.S.	4	2.5	3	2.0
Rutland	Rutland Jr./Sr. H.S.	55	5.7	22	3.0
St. Albans	Bellows Free Academy	49	5.3	74	7.7
St. Johnsbury	St. Johnsbury Academy	13	2.1	14	5.0*
South Burlington	South Burlington H.S.	36	4.1	23	3.1
Springfield	Springfield H.S.	28	3.5	33	5.6
Stowe	Stowe H.S.	3	1.7	5	2.9
Swanton	Missisquoi Valley UHSD #7	35	5.1	64	8.6
Thetford	Thetford Academy	5	2.2	8	4.2
Townshend	Leland & Gray UHSD #34	7	3.5	8	4.0
Vergennes	Vergennes UHSD #5	8	1.9	15	4.3
Wells River	Blue Mountain UHSD #21	5	2.6	2	1.0
West Rutland	West Rutland H.S.	1	0.4	4	3.7
Whitingham	Whitingham H.S.	5	4.0	4	5.3
Williamstown	Williamstown H.S.	11	4.4	8	4.8
Wilmington	Wilmington H.S.	4	3.5	4	3.2
Windsor	Windsor H.S.	16	5.0	10	4.1
Winooski	Winooski H.S.	19	5.8	14	7.5
Woodstock	Woodstock UHSD #4	9	2.3	13	3.2
Vermont	Vermont	1320	4.3	1271	4.7

[1] *Average of school years 1980-1981, 1981-1982, 1982-1983* [2] *Average of school years 1990-1991, 1991-1992, 1992-1993* * *Average of school years 1990-1991, 1992-1993*

Table 8

Child Deaths

Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14

County	1981[1] Number	1981[1] Rate	1986[2] Number	1986[2] Rate	1991[3] Number	1991[3] Rate	Percent change in rate
Addison	2	30.7	1	20.3	2	29.5	-3.9 ↓
Bennington	3	42.8	1	14.2	3	34.7	-12.6 ↓
Caledonia	2	35.3	3	51.7	2	33.1	-6.2 ↓
Chittenden	8	35.3	6	23.9	4	17.7	-49.9 ↓
Essex-Orleans	6	81.6	2	34.4	2	34.2	-58.1 ↓
Franklin-Grand Isle	3	34.6	3	33.5	2	22.1	-36.1 ↓
Lamoille	2	45.2	1	34.7	1	16.3	-63.9 ↓
Orange	2	38.6	2	30.6	1	17.4	-54.9 ↓
Rutland	6	51.0	2	20.0	2	19.6	-61.6 ↓
Washington	5	45.7	4	39.7	2	20.9	-54.3 ↓
Windham	3	39.5	2	24.9	2	23.4	-40.8 ↓
Windsor	5	51.7	3	32.0	3	28.0	-45.8 ↓
Vermont	47	43.5	32	28.7	27	23.7	-45.5 ↓

[1] Average 1980-1982(1981) [2] Average 1985-1987 (1986) [3] Average 1990-1992 (1991)

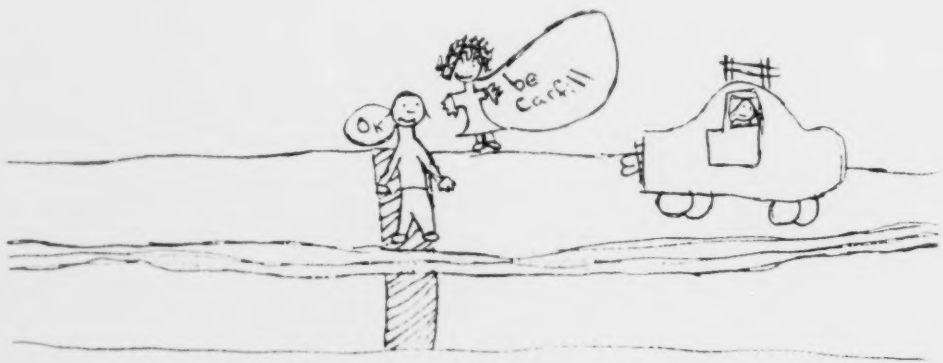
Family Health

Child Deaths

Between 1980 and 1992 the rate of child deaths declined by 45.5 percent. Every county demonstrated a decline over the same period. The most common causes of death were disease and trauma. The leading causes of trauma deaths were motor vehicle accidents, drowning and fires[6].

Safer Children 2000 recommends primary prevention objectives[7] to help further reduce child trauma deaths:

- Increase use of safety restraints to 100 percent of motor vehicle occupants under age 19 and decrease substance impaired driving to reduce motor vehicle deaths to no more than 10 per 100,000.
- Increase use of working smoke detectors and fire safety products and increase awareness and use of home fire safety measures to reduce fire deaths of children to zero.
- Increase supervision of young children and awareness and use of water safety habits to reduce drowning death rates to no more than 1.8 per 100,000 children.



Teen Violent Deaths

The rate of teen violent deaths declined by 25.4 percent between 1980 and 1992. The Vermont Child Fatality Review Committee designates violent deaths as unintentional and intentional. The leading cause of unintentional deaths among 15 to 19 year olds was motor vehicle crashes. Teen violent deaths that are categorized as intentional are suicide and homicide. Between 1990 and 1992 firearms were used in 68 percent of suicides committed by this age group and in all the homicides of 15 to 19 year olds[8]. According to the Vermont Children's Forum, guns pose the greatest risk for teenage intentional violent death. "The impulsiveness and immediacy of teen life lead to a greater likelihood of suicide by gun when a gun is easily accessible [9]." Increased information about gun safety should be provided throughout the community and schools.

Table 9

Teen Violent Deaths by County

Number and rate of teen violent deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19

County	1981[1]		1986[2]		1991[3]		Percent change in rate
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	
Addison	4	128.9	3	96.3	1	36.6	-71.6 ↓
Bennington	2	55.6	3	112.5	1	58.6	5.4 ↑
Caledonia	3	109.2	2	87.7	<1	16.3	-85.1 ↓
Chittenden	6	43.4	6	45.3	5	44.0	1.4 ↑
Essex-Orleans	3	126.4	3	142.7	1	64.9	-48.7 ↓
Franklin-Grand Isle	1	37.4	3	90.0	4	119.7	220.1 ↑
Lamoille	4	244.2	1	41.8	<1	22.3	-90.9 ↓
Orange	4	174.4	3	149.1	<1	18.2	-89.6 ↓
Rutland	3	54.4	4	81.7	2	48.3	-11.2 ↓
Washington	2	40.9	3	70.7	3	74.4	81.9 ↑
Windham	4	143.6	1	48.4	3	109.5	-23.7 ↓
Windsor	3	72.8	2	56.4	3	89.8	23.4 ↑
Vermont	39	78.5	34	75.1	23	58.6	-25.4 ↓

[1] Average 1980-1982(1981) [2] Average 1985-1987 (1986) [3] Average 1990-1992 (1991)

How I Will Make Things Better For kids!

I would take alcohol away from everyone and make it a law that everyone would get a big fine for drinking I'd put signs up about it, too!

I want to do this because kids could die from it and pick up the habit from their parents They can grow up and get drunk a lot Some people have kids and beat them because they get drunk I think that's really dumb If you drink, please stop, for me

Table 10

Infant Mortality

Number and rate of deaths per 1,000 live births

County	1981[1] Number	1981[1] Rate	1986[2] Number	1986[2] Rate	1991[3] Number	1991[3] Rate	Percent change in rate
Addison	4	7.7	4	9.1	4	8.7	13.0 ↑
Bennington	6	12.0	5	8.9	1	1.4	-88.3 ↓
Caledonia	5	11.6	4	9.3	2	6.4	-44.8 ↓
Chittenden	15	9.1	15	7.7	14	7.2	-20.9 ↓
Essex-Orleans	5	9.6	2	4.9	2	5.7	-40.6 ↓
Franklin-Grand Isle	6	9.0	6	8.6	4	5.0	-44.4 ↓
Lamoille	2	7.2	2	8.2	2	8.0	11.1 ↑
Orange	2	6.2	4	9.6	1	3.6	-41.9 ↓
Rutland	8	9.2	8	8.8	5	5.7	-38.0 ↓
Washington	9	10.9	6	8.4	7	9.5	-12.8 ↓
Windham	6	9.9	10	17.0	3	4.5	-54.5 ↓
Windsor	7	8.9	7	9.4	6	8.3	-6.7 ↓
Vermont	74	9.4	73	9.0	51	6.4	-31.9 ↓

[1] Average 1980-1982(1981) [2] Average 1985-1987 (1986) [3] Average 1990-1992 (1991)

Infant Mortality

A basic indicator of the overall health and welfare of a nation is the infant mortality rate which measures the number and rate of infant deaths (prior to age one) for every 1000 live births. Since 1988 Vermont has met national and state goals[10] of seven deaths or less for every 1,000 live births.

Major causes of infant deaths during the period 1990-1992 were congenital anomalies (largely non-preventable birth defects), Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and complications of prematurity.

Low Birthweight

Low birthweight is a major contributing cause of infant mortality. Defined as weighing less than five and one-half pounds at birth, low birthweight also increases the likelihood of children experiencing developmental problems. Low birthweight is higher among women who smoke. In 1992, 30 percent of low birthweight babies were born to mothers who smoke compared with 19 percent of all Vermont infants born to mothers who smoke. Table 11 reveals an initial decline in the number and percent of low birthweight babies in the mid 1980s but the overall trend since then doesn't show much improvement.

Table 11

Low-Birthweight Babies

Babies born weighing less than 5 1/2 pounds

County	1981[1] Number	1981[1] Rate	1986[2] Number	1986[2] Rate	1991[3] Number	1991[3] Rate	Percent change in rate
Addison	30	6.3	24	5.1	30	5.9	-6.3 ↓
Bennington	28	5.4	16	3.0	26	5.5	1.9 ↑
Caledonia	21	5.2	20	5.1	13	3.6	-30.8 ↓
Chittenden	100	6.0	97	5.1	106	5.5	-8.3 ↓
Essex-Orleans	27	5.6	24	6.0	29	7.1	26.8 ↑
Franklin-Grand Isle	42	6.0	44	6.3	44	5.5	-8.3 ↓
Lamoille	20	7.1	16	5.8	12	4.2	-40.8 ↓
Orange	20	5.4	23	6.1	16	4.3	-20.4 ↓
Rutland	60	7.1	55	6.3	46	5.6	-21.1 ↓
Washington	50	6.3	44	5.8	45	6.1	-3.2 ↓
Windham	36	6.0	34	5.6	32	5.4	-10.0 ↓
Windsor	41	5.4	45	5.7	42	6.2	14.8 ↑
Vermont	474	6.0	442	5.5	441	5.5	-8.3 ↓

[1] *Average 1980-1982(1981)* [2] *Average 1985-1987 (1986)* [3] *Average 1990-1992 (1991)*

My idea is to stop smoking adults I think they should stop smoking adults. I see adults are smoking with Jo the canal and if you smoke you will go to gairdis and get girl disease smoking in enclosed areas with children could be illegal because second hand smoking

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Prenatal Care

Prenatal care improves outcomes for mothers and infants and helps reduce the number of low birthweight babies and thus infant deaths. Effective prenatal care begins early, within the first three months, and is continuous and comprehensive. Three basic components are necessary for comprehensive care: one, early and continuous risk assessment, for example: monitoring blood pressure, blood sugar levels and nutritional condition. Two, health education including information about the effects of smoking, drugs, alcohol or diet during pregnancy and three, when necessary, medical and/or psychological intervention[11]. The Vermont Department of Health's *Year 2,000 Goals* call for 90 percent of all pregnant women to begin prenatal care in the first trimester. In Vermont the number of pregnant women receiving early prenatal care has steadily increased since the 1980s. This increase reflects progress for all ages however, teenagers still lag behind all other pregnant women in receiving early prenatal care[12]. When coupled with teens higher risk for having low birthweight babies, specific attention to teens beginning early care is critical.

Table 12

Prenatal Care

Mothers recieving prenatal care in the first trimester

County	1981[1] Number	1981[1] Rate	1986[2] Number	1986[2] Rate	1991[3] Number	1991[3] Rate	Percent change in rate
Addison	381	81.1	357	79.1	395	82.7	2.0 ⬆
Bennington	385	74.4	400	77.1	376	81.5	9.5 ⬆
Caledonia	314	78.4	307	79.7	300	84.8	8.2 ⬆
Chittenden	1437	85.8	1462	81.6	1592	86.1	0.3 ⬆
Essex-Orleans	322	67.9	293	74.0	324	82.7	21.8 ⬆
Franklin-Grand Isle	533	77.3	498	75.7	633	83.4	7.9 ⬆
Lamoille	210	75.9	214	78.4	239	85.2	12.3 ⬆
Orange	296	80.4	301	83.3	303	84.7	5.3 ⬆
Rutland	627	76.0	634	76.1	621	78.1	2.8 ⬆
Washington	653	82.6	607	82.1	624	87.2	5.6 ⬆
Windham	451	75.2	452	76.6	452	80.7	7.3 ⬆
Windsor	584	78.8	594	81.3	538	80.9	2.7 ⬆
Vermont	6194	79.1	6119	79.1	6398	83.4	5.4 ⬆

[1] *Average 1980-1982(1981)* [2] *Average 1985-1987 (1986)* [3] *Average 1990-1992 (1991)*

New Families at Risk

New Families at Risk identifies the single largest group at risk of poverty[1]. Vermont Kids Count combines three indicators of future economic hardship to characterize New Families at Risk: first births to single teen women with less than 12 years of schooling . Like the increase in the child poverty rate in the 1990s, the number and percent of new families at risk in Vermont declined from the early-to-mid-1980s, but increased to an even higher level by the early 1990s. The children in New Families at Risk are at substantial risk of poor outcomes like their mothers. Children of teens are at higher risk for health and developmental problems in infancy, and behavioral and academic problems later on. Children whose mothers were single teens are more likely to become teen parents.

Table 13

New Families at Risk

First births to single women under 20 who have not completed high school

County	1981[1] Number	1981[1] Rate	1986[2] Number	1986[2] Rate	1991[3] Number	1991[3] Rate	Percent change in rate
Addison	10	5.1	13	6.2	15	7.5	47.1 ↑
Bennington	19	8.0	17	8.2	21	11.6	45.0 ↑
Caledonia	12	7.3	14	8.8	18	13.1	79.5 ↑
Chittenden	45	5.6	53	6.3	51	6.2	10.7 ↑
Essex-Orleans	15	7.4	13	8.1	18	11.8	59.5 ↑
Franklin-Grand Isle	32	10.4	18	6.7	27	9.0	-13.5 ↓
Lamoille	10	7.9	9	7.8	11	9.6	21.5 ↑
Orange	11	7.1	7	5.1	13	8.9	25.4 ↑
Rutland	27	7.6	27	7.2	26	8.4	10.5 ↑
Washington	25	7.1	17	5.2	19	6.3	-11.3 ↓
Windham	18	6.6	15	5.9	19	8.0	21.2 ↑
Windsor	25	7.2	17	5.6	18	6.8	-5.6 ↓
Vermont	250	7.1	219	6.5	257	8.1	14.1 ↑

[1] Average 1980-1982(1981) [2] Average 1985-1987 (1986) [3] Average 1990-1992 (1991)

Births to Teens

The birthrate for all Vermont teens has recently declined overall. However, data also show an increase in births to single teens. These trends are similar to national data showing a 70 percent increase in single teen births from the 1960s to 1992 while the overall teen birthrate has declined. Fewer teens are having children but a higher percentage of the teens who do have children are single.

Table 14

Births to Teens

Births to women under 20

County	1981[1] Number	1981[1] Rate	1986[2] Number	1986[2] Rate	1991[3] Number	1991[3] Rate	Percent change in rate
Addison	43	9.0	40	8.4	36	7.2	-20.0 ↓
Bennington	77	14.7	60	11.5	55	11.6	-21.1 ↓
Caledonia	51	12.6	44	11.0	46	12.6	0.0 ↓
Chittenden	160	9.5	141	7.4	134	6.9	-27.4 ↓
Essex-Orleans	69	14.2	45	11.1	54	13.0	-8.5 ↓
Franklin-Grand Isle	106	15.1	66	9.4	69	8.7	-42.4 ↓
Lamoille	39	14.1	28	10.0	30	10.2	-27.7 ↓
Orange	43	11.6	36	9.5	42	11.2	-3.4 ↓
Rutland	100	11.9	88	10.1	69	8.4	-29.4 ↓
Washington	98	12.3	66	8.7	57	7.7	-37.4 ↓
Windham	79	13.0	50	8.3	51	8.6	-33.8 ↓
Windsor	93	12.4	64	8.2	58	8.5	-31.5 ↓
Vermont	958	12.1	727	9.0	701	8.8	-27.3 ↓

[1] Average 1980-1982(1981) [2] Average 1985-1987 (1986) [3] Average 1990-1992 (1991)

Table 15

Births to Single Teens

Number and percent of all births

County	1981[1] Number	1981[1] Rate	1986[2] Number	1986[2] Rate	1991[1] Number	1991[1] Rate	Percent change in rate
Addison	18	3.7	25	5.2	26	5.2	40.5 ↑
Bennington	38	7.2	44	8.3	41	8.6	19.4 ↑
Caledonia	20	5.0	27	6.8	33	9.0	80.0 ↑
Chittenden	81	4.8	95	5.0	102	5.3	10.4 ↑
Essex-Orleans	24	5.0	25	6.2	38	9.2	84.0 ↑
Franklin-Grand Isle	56	8.0	41	5.8	49	6.1	-23.8 ↓
Lamoille	16	5.6	19	6.7	20	6.7	19.6 ↑
Orange	18	4.8	21	5.4	29	7.8	62.5 ↑
Rutland	49	5.8	56	6.4	50	6.1	5.2 ↑
Washington	42	5.3	40	5.3	39	5.3	0.0
Windham	34	5.7	32	5.4	39	6.5	14.0 ↑
Windsor	51	6.8	37	4.7	42	6.1	-10.3 ↓
Vermont	447	5.6	461	5.7	507	6.3	12.5 ↑

[1] *Average 1980-1982(1981)* [2] *Average 1985-1987 (1986)* [1] *Average 1990-1992 (1991)*

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Pregnant and parenting teens, single or married, face difficult health, educational and economic outcomes. As we have said, pregnant teens are the least likely to receive early prenatal care[14] and more likely to have low birthweight babies. They often experience interruptions in their education and drop out of school, and are less apt to complete high school or attend college than women who delay childbirth. Teen mothers, married or single, face a future of lower wages and chronic unemployment. Married teens with children may also experience a significant degree of instability: the rate of separation and divorce is twice as high as that for women who marry in their twenties[15].

Table 16

Child Abuse and Neglect

Number of confirmed reports and rate per 10,000 children under 18

County	1985[1] Number	1985[1] Rate	1988[2] Number	1988[2] Rate	1991[3] Number	1991[3] Rate	Percent change in rate
Addison	63	74	58	67	50	58	-21.6 ↓
Bennington	86	95	80	88	82	91	-4.2 ↓
Caledonia	86	113	71	93	89	115	1.8 ↑
Chittenden	271	87	302	97	315	101	16.1 ↑
Essex-Orleans	110	125	99	114	104	121	-3.2 ↓
Franklin-Grand Isle	94	73	174	134	151	112	53.4 ↑
Lamoille	35	71	38	76	32	63	-11.3 ↓
Orange	80	115	73	103	57	78	-32.2 ↓
Rutland	132	87	120	80	98	65	-25.3 ↓
Washington	178	126	199	141	159	113	-10.3 ↓
Windham	165	161	159	151	163	152	-5.6 ↓
Windsor	176	131	173	128	175	130	-0.8 ↓
Vermont	1477	103	1,545	108	1,473	102	-1.0 ↓

[1] *Average 1984-1986 (1985)* [2] *Average 1987-1989 (1988)* [3] *Average 1990-1992 (1991)*

Child Protection

Child Abuse and Neglect

Vermont statutes (33 V.S.A.§ 4912) define an abused or neglected child as one "whose physical or mental health or welfare is harmed or is at substantial risk of harm by the acts or omissions of his parent or other persons responsible for the child's welfare." Abuse and neglect also means a "child who is sexually abused by any person".

I think that all the people in Vermont can stop violins and drugs by having more town meeting and and I think that what the say at the meetings they should do. I hope that this will convince you. to

It is important to note that the overall rate of confirmed reports of abuse and neglect began to decline in the 1990s. The decline in the rate and number of substantiated reports of physical abuse (Table 17) between 1990 and 1992 in all counties in Vermont strongly contributes to the overall decline noted in Table 16. Tables 18 and 19 indicate the rate and number of substantiated reports of sexual abuse and neglect for Vermont have continued to rise in the early 1990s. The number of confirmed reports of neglect, alone, increased from an average of 203 per year between 1984 and 1986 to an average of 400 per year from 1990 through 1992.

Table 17

Physical Abuse

Number of confirmed reports and rate per 10,000 children under 18

County	1985[1]		1988[2]		1991[3]		Percent change in rate
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	
Addison	30	35	22	25	15	17	-51.4 ↓
Bennington	31	34	19	21	17	19	-44.1 ↓
Caledonia	33	44	22	28	20	26	-40.9 ↓
Chittenden	124	40	108	35	105	34	-15.0 ↓
Essex-Orleans	41	47	38	44	16	19	-59.6 ↓
Franklin-Grand Isle	43	34	62	47	43	32	-5.9 ↓
Lamoille	13	26	14	29	12	23	-11.5 ↓
Orange	37	54	24	34	18	25	-53.7 ↓
Rutland	40	26	33	22	23	15	-42.3 ↓
Washington	89	63	81	58	41	29	-54.0 ↓
Windham	75	73	63	60	55	52	-28.8 ↓
Windsor	94	69	81	60	51	38	-44.9 ↓
Vermont	651	46	567	40	416	29	-37.0 ↓

[1] *Average 1984-1986 (1985)* [2] *Average 1987-1989 (1988)* [3] *Average 1990-1992 (1991)*

How I would make things better for kids:

To stop all child abuse

Table 18

Sexual Abuse

Number of confirmed reports and rate per 10,000 children under 18

County	1985[1] Number	1985[1] Rate	1988[2] Number	1988[2] Rate	1991[3] Number	1991[3] Rate	Percent change in rate
Addison	25	29	29	34	27	31	6.9 ↑
Bennington	46	51	43	48	45	51	0.0
Caledonia	33	44	36	47	49	64	45.5 ↑
Chittenden	97	31	123	40	149	48	54.8 ↑
Essex-Orleans	45	51	45	52	76	89	74.5 ↑
Franklin-Grand Isle	35	27	81	62	88	66	144.4 ↑
Lamoille	18	36	19	39	17	33	-8.3 ↓
Orange	35	51	42	59	32	44	-13.7 ↓
Rutland	62	40	63	41	57	38	-5.0 ↓
Washington	74	52	97	69	86	61	17.3 ↑
Windham	58	57	57	54	65	61	7.0 ↑
Windsor	50	37	67	50	85	64	73.0 ↑
Vermont	578	41	701	49	777	54	31.7 ↑

[1] Average 1984-1986 (1985) [2] Average 1987-1989 (1988) [3] Average 1990-1992 (1991)

I would like to tell you how I think kids in Vermont should be treated. My first idea is to get a center if kids have problems they just go to the center and tell their problems to who they feel comfortble with. I don't think kids should be abused. Kids should be treated the same as adults because we're just as special as them.
The age for drinking should be raised. Acids in cigerettes and alchole make kid's bodies work harder.

However, 1993 data from Vermont's Agency of Human Services, not reflected in this report, also show a decrease in the number and rates of confirmed reports of neglect and sexual abuse and a continuing decline in physical abuse, bucking the national trend. Yet it is important to keep in mind that the numbers and rates do not provide insight on unreported and unsubstantiated incidents of abuse and neglect.

Children who are abused and neglected face immediate and long term effects which can include: low self esteem, destructive habits towards self and others, extreme aggressive or passive behaviors and feelings of guilt and self-blame for the abuse. Undetected and/or untreated, child abuse has a significant impact on a child, the effects often lasting throughout adulthood. Children who are abused can be robbed of their innocence, mental health, and their ability to have successes in life. Prevention, support and intervention services are documented to help stop inter-generational cycles of abuse, and reduce future incidents and the effects of child abuse and neglect.

Table 19

Neglect

Number of confirmed reports and rate per 10,000 children under 18

County	1985[1] Number	1985[1] Rate	1988[2] Number	1988[2] Rate	1991[3] Number	1991[3] Rate	Percent change in rate
Addison	9	11	11	12	11	13	18.2 ↑
Bennington	10	11	19	21	22	25	127.3 ↑
Caledonia	13	18	15	20	26	33	83.3 ↑
Chittenden	35	11	69	22	83	27	145.5 ↑
Essex-Orleans	24	27	24	28	23	26	-3.7 ↓
Franklin-Grand Isle	13	10	42	32	31	23	130.0 ↑
Lamoille	4	8	7	15	7	13	62.5 ↑
Orange	6	9	10	14	12	17	88.9 ↑
Rutland	23	15	27	18	25	17	13.3 ↑
Washington	20	14	46	33	51	37	164.3 ↑
Windham	30	29	45	43	58	54	86.2 ↑
Windsor	15	11	32	24	50	38	245.5 ↑
Vermont	203	14	349	24	400	28	100.0 ↑

[1] *Average 1984-1986 (1985)* [2] *Average 1987-1989 (1988)* [3] *Average 1990-1992 (1991)*

Dear People of The World,

I have written a poem for the kids of the world and how their life is like and how we can help. This is my poem to all of you out their.

Life can be hard for kids
And ice creams can't change it
You and I won't fix it
But we can help
Not even AMERICA can change it
But they can help
To make a kid's life better
We could try and decrease the violence
That they see around them
Life could be easier for kids this way

Children in Custody

Abuse/Neglect, Unmanageable and Delinquent Children in Custody Cases

Children come into the custody of Vermont's Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services as a Child in Need of Supervision (CHINS) or because a child has committed a delinquent act[16]. The three classifications of children in custody are those who are abused and neglected; those who are deemed unmanageable, and delinquent children.

The average daily numbers and average daily rates of custody cases increased substantially in each classification between the 1989-1990 and the 1991-1992 periods. In fact, average daily numbers and average daily rates increased in all counties for all three categories of custodial children. Of the three, the greatest increase was in children deemed unmanageable. The unprecedented increases in children entering custody over this four-year period has already begun to seriously impact the system that serves these children[17].

Children in custody are placed in Vermont's protective services which focus on successful return to their families whenever possible. The majority of children in custody are placed in foster care, for emergency care and/or as a long term arrangement. Depending on their needs, children in foster care may live with a licensed foster care parent(s) or reside in therapeutic foster care homes, residential groups homes or in a

Table 20

Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases

Average daily number and average daily rate per 10,000 children under 18

County	1989-1990[1] Number	1989-1990[1] Rate	1991-1992[2] Number	1991-1992[2] Rate	Percent change in rate
Addison	40	47	71	82	74.5 ↑
Bennington	49	54	64	72	33.3 ↑
Caledonia	73	95	105	136	43.2 ↑
Chittenden	95	31	192	62	100.0 ↑
Essex-Orleans	72	84	89	103	22.6 ↑
Franklin-Grand Isle	131	99	184	136	37.4 ↑
Lamoille	30	58	37	72	24.1 ↑
Orange	33	45	37	51	13.3 ↑
Rutland	86	57	105	70	22.8 ↑
Washington	94	67	122	86	28.4 ↑
Windham	43	40	59	55	37.5 ↑
Windsor	69	52	105	78	50.0 ↑
Vermont	815	57	1169	81	42.1 ↑

[1] *Average 1989-1990* [2] *Average 1990-1992*

Table 21

Delinquent Custody Cases

Average daily number and average daily rate per 10,000 children under 18

County	1989-1990[1] Number	1989-1990[1] Rate	1991-1992[2] Number	1991-1992[2] Rate	Percent change in rate
Addison	8	10	20	24	140.0 ↑
Bennington	20	22	24	27	22.7 ↑
Caledonia	6	8	11	14	75.0 ↑
Chittenden	53	17	73	24	41.2 ↑
Essex-Orleans	15	17	29	34	100.0 ↑
Franklin-Grand Isle	16	12	32	23	91.7 ↑
Lamoille	4	8	10	20	150.0 ↑
Orange	4	6	9	12	100.0 ↑
Rutland	35	23	48	32	39.1 ↑
Washington	23	16	33	24	50.0 ↑
Windham	19	18	32	30	66.7 ↑
Windsor	14	11	15	11	0.0 ↑
Vermont	217	15	336	23	53.3 ↑

[1] *Average 1989-1990* [2] *Average 1990-1992*

treatment center. Less frequently children may be placed in an out-of-state treatment program. Intensive family-based services and WrapAround Services are programs tailored to the child and family. These services help avoid out-of-home placements; they enable children to stay in their communities or facilitate a child's return home. Transitional services assist the older youth in custody to develop skills for independent living.

Table 22

Unmanageable Custody Cases

Average daily number and average daily rate per 10,000 children under 18

County	1989-1990[1] Number	1989-1990[1] Rate	1991-1992[2] Number	1991-1992[2] Rate	Percent change in rate
Addison	22	25	29	34	36.0 ⬆
Bennington	14	15	24	27	80.0 ⬆
Caledonia	14	18	24	31	72.2 ⬆
Chittenden	80	26	161	52	100.0 ⬆
Essex-Orleans	8	9	15	17	88.9 ⬆
Franklin-Grand Isle	22	17	42	31	82.4 ⬆
Lamoille	10	19	14	26	36.8 ⬆
Orange	4	6	10	13	116.7 ⬆
Rutland	49	33	72	48	45.5 ⬆
Washington	21	15	24	17	13.3 ⬆
Windham	15	14	25	23	64.3 ⬆
Windsor	27	20	35	26	30.0 ⬆
Vermont	285	20	474	33	65.0 ⬆

[1] *Average 1989-1990* [2] *Average 1990-1992*

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Summary of Indicators Based on 1990s Census Data

The tables in this section shows snapshots of Vermont families through demographic, economic and education indicators. These tables are based on 1990s Census data and use the same figures* and descriptions found in the 1993 KIDS COUNT Data Book.

** Due to small populations in Essex and Grand Isle Counties, Essex and Orleans Counties data and Franklin and Grand Isle Counties data have been combined in this year's data book.*

Racial and Ethnic Diversity of Vermont Children

The ethnic and racial diversity of Vermont's child population increased more than 40 percent since 1980 yet in terms of total population, the proportion of minority children rose only slightly, from 1.8 percent to 2.6 percent. Hispanic children represent the largest percentage of all minority children, followed by Asian or Pacific Islander, African American, Native American, Eskimo or Aleut and the remaining percent categorized as other. The largest increases are in Asian or Pacific Islanders and African Americans.

Table 23

Racial and Ethnic Diversity of Vermont Children

(ages 0-17) population

County	1980 White	1990 White	1980 African American	1990 African American	1980 Hispanic	1990 Hispanic	1980 American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1990 American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1980 Asian or Pacific Islander	1990 Asian or Pacific Islander	1980 Other race	1990 Other race	1980 Total	1990 Total
Addison	8,564	8,479	9	30	49	50	7	35	17	50	19	7	8,616	8,601
Bennington	9,239	8,872	21	39	52	71	13	15	34	57	23	10	9,330	8,993
Caledonia	7,549	7,585	11	27	38	27	2	33	10	25	13	10	7,585	7,680
Chittenden	31,236	29,982	159	262	250	317	44	65	224	408	129	99	31,792	30,816
Essex-Orleans	9,215	8,441	0	25	37	63	7	15	11	34	34	17	9,267	8,532
Franklin-G.I.	12,375	12,874	19	29	37	49	191	219	16	51	37	18	12,638	13,191
Lamoille	4,793	5,015	7	12	30	22	7	17	6	21	17	7	4,830	5,072
Orange	6,788	7,149	18	23	40	31	5	21	21	31	13	18	6,845	7,242
Rutland	15,696	14,818	23	56	98	96	12	17	41	65	53	37	15,825	14,993
Washington	14,518	13,713	24	83	219	174	12	34	45	86	43	24	14,642	13,940
Windham	9,951	10,434	24	60	77	114	12	23	20	83	48	30	10,055	10,630
Windsor	13,751	13,135	44	44	57	89	26	48	41	127	31	39	13,893	13,393
Vermont	143,675	140,497	359	690	984	1,103	338	542	486	1,038	460	316	145,318	143,083

Family Data

Family data are important in evaluating the changing economic status of Vermont's families. Most single-parent families are headed by women, and as other data indicate, by the 1990s the vast majority of mothers in both single and two-parent families were working in the paid labor force.

Median Family Income

Median income represents the dollar amount above which half of Vermont's families earn more, and half our families earn less. Median family income increased by 18.2 percent in ten years. However during the same period, Vermonters experienced a 65.8 percent increase in the cost of living. Thus the average value of family income decreased overall by 47.6 percent during this period.

Table 24

Median Family Income

Constant 1989 dollars

County	1979	1989	Percent change in income
Addison	28,297	34,561	22.1 ⬆
Bennington	28,868	33,513	16.1 ⬆
Caledonia	26,074	29,877	14.6 ⬆
Chittenden	35,830	43,972	22.7 ⬆
Essex-Orleans	24,508	26,283	7.2 ⬆
Franklin-G.I.	27,562	32,951	19.6 ⬆
Lamoille	26,960	31,772	17.8 ⬆
Orange	24,846	31,066	25.0 ⬆
Rutland	29,193	32,743	12.2 ⬆
Washington	29,080	35,396	21.7 ⬆
Windham	28,259	32,593	15.3 ⬆
Windsor	30,435	34,691	14.0 ⬆
Vermont	29,421	34,780	18.2 ⬆

Children in Single-Parent Families

In this book, families are defined as one or more related people living together. During a ten year period, the number of children in single parent-families in Vermont increased by more than 25 percent. About one child in five children lives in a single-parent family.

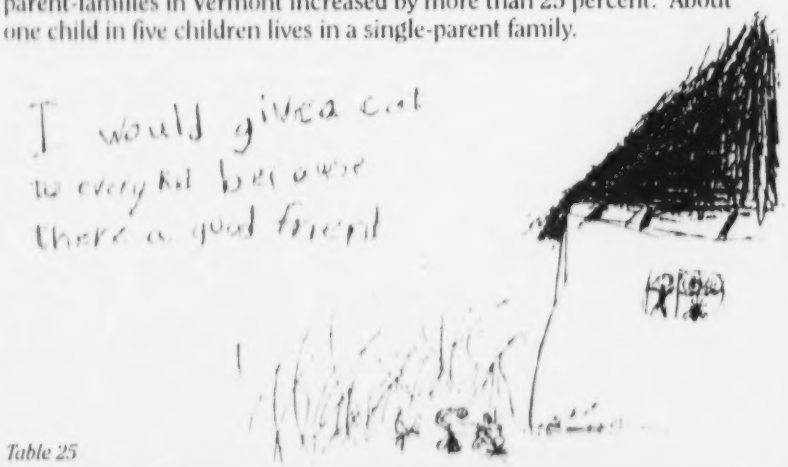

Table 25

Children in Single-Parent Families

County	1980 Number	1980 Percent	1990 Number	1990 Percent	Percent change in rate
Addison	1,102	12.8	1,348	15.7	22.7 ⬆
Bennington	1,496	16.1	1,806	20.1	24.8 ⬆
Caledonia	1,114	14.7	1,518	19.8	34.7 ⬆
Chittenden	4,469	14.1	5,496	17.8	26.2 ⬆
Essex-Orleans	1,221	13.2	1,562	18.3	38.6 ⬆
Franklin-G.I.	1,833	14.5	2,277	17.3	19.3 ⬆
Lamoille	672	13.9	940	18.5	33.1 ⬆
Orange	891	13.0	1,273	17.6	35.4 ⬆
Rutland	2,330	14.7	2,682	17.9	21.8 ⬆
Washington	2,374	16.2	2,661	19.1	17.9 ⬆
Windham	1,708	17.0	2,219	20.9	22.9 ⬆
Windsor	2,186	15.8	2,527	18.9	19.6 ⬆
Vermont	21,396	14.7	26,309	18.4	25.2 ⬆

Working Mothers

Since 1980, a major societal change has occurred at the work place and home. In every county of Vermont, the majority of children now have mothers who work. In the mid 1980s, only 46 percent of all mothers whose youngest children were under age six were in the paid labor force. In 1990, two-thirds of these mothers had jobs in the paid labor force, exceeding national figures.

The percentage of working mothers whose youngest children are age six to seventeen is even higher. 82.2 percent of these mothers work outside the home.

We can make things better for kids by making our cities, towns, and neighborhoods safer for us to live in and less violent. Kids have less freedom because if we go places by ourselves we constantly have to worry about how safe it is. If our streets were safer we wouldn't worry as much. That also gives us less freedom. We should have more freedom to do what we please.

Table 26

Women in the Labor Force with Youngest Child Under Age 6

County	1980 Number	1980 Percent	1990 Number	1990 Percent	Percent change in numbers
Addison	828	48.1	1,358	67.5	64.0 ⬆
Bennington	1,013	54.0	1,455	65.7	43.6 ⬆
Caledonia	766	46.3	1,008	59.2	31.6 ⬆
Chittenden	3,290	49.9	5,322	66.0	61.8 ⬆
Essex-Orleans	850	44.1	1,066	62.0	40.1 ⬆
Franklin-G.I.	1,026	37.9	1,893	62.1	63.9 ⬆
Lamoille	590	54.3	785	65.6	33.1 ⬆
Orange	678	46.2	1,164	67.6	71.7 ⬆
Rutland	1,569	48.4	2,411	63.6	53.7 ⬆
Washington	1,462	51.6	2,218	70.1	51.7 ⬆
Windham	1,064	47.8	1,594	66.5	49.8 ⬆
Windsor	1,333	48.3	2,299	72.0	72.5 ⬆
Vermont	14,469	48.1	22,573	66.0	56.0 ⬆

Table 27

Women in the Labor Force with Youngest Child Ages 6-17

County	1980 Number	1980 Percent	1990 Number	1990 Percent	Percent change in numbers
Addison	1,396	62.7	1,851	82.0	32.6 ⬆
Bennington	1,895	75.6	1,936	83.6	2.2 ⬆
Caledonia	1,259	66.4	1,759	82.6	39.7 ⬆
Chittenden	5,800	65.5	6,883	82.7	18.7 ⬆
Essex-Orleans	1,414	60.8	1,874	79.3	30.4 ⬆
Franklin-G.I.	1,865	61.4	2,626	77.3	24.9 ⬆
Lamoille	800	68.7	1,083	82.2	35.4 ⬆
Orange	1,168	69.4	1,574	83.3	34.8 ⬆
Rutland	3,041	69.1	3,351	81.5	10.2 ⬆
Washington	3,010	72.6	3,433	84.2	14.1 ⬆
Windham	1,929	71.2	2,340	82.1	21.3 ⬆
Windsor	2,669	68.5	3,149	84.9	18.0 ⬆
Vermont	26,246	67.6	31,859	82.2	21.4 ⬆

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Teens Ages 15 to 19 Not in School and Not in the Labor Force

The percentage of 15 to 19 year olds who dropped out of school and who were not working declined during the 1980s from 5.6 to 4.0.

Table 28

Teens Ages 15-19 Not in School and Not in Labor Force

County	1980 Number	1980 Percent	1990 Number	1990 Percent	Percent change in rate
Addison	144	5.1	178	6.9	35.3 ↑
Bennington	101	4.1	117	5.9	43.9 ↑
Caledonia	166	8.1	52	3.0	-63.0 ↓
Chittenden	461	3.8	216	2.2	-42.1 ↓
Essex-Orleans	156	7.5	114	4.0	-46.7 ↓
Franklin-G.I.	222	8.0	104	4.2	-47.5 ↓
Lamoille	86	6.4	58	4.2	-34.4 ↓
Orange	88	5.0	79	5.1	2.0 ↑
Rutland	287	6.1	146	3.9	-36.1 ↓
Washington	184	4.6	125	4.1	-10.9 ↓
Windham	257	10.9	82	4.1	-62.4 ↓
Windsor	196	5.8	127	5.2	-10.3 ↓
Vermont	2348	5.6	1,398	4.0	-28.6 ↓

Educational Attainment of Adults

The number of adults 25 or older who have completed high school sometimes influences educational patterns and goals of the next generation. In particular, there is a strong correlation between a mother's high school completion and that of her children's. While the rate for this indicator improved by more than 13 percent by 1990, almost one in five Vermont adults had not finished high school or received a GED (General Equivalency Diploma) which is similar to Department of Education estimates of a dropout rate of almost one in five students.

Table 29

Educational Attainment of Adults

Adults 25 years or older who have completed high school or GED

County	1980 Number	1980 Percent	1990 Number	1990 Percent	Percent change in rate
Addison	11,149	70.4	16,287	82.0	16.5 ↑
Bennington	13,637	68.2	18,251	77.8	14.1 ↑
Caledonia	10,280	68.3	13,520	77.4	13.3 ↑
Chittenden	47,775	78.3	68,841	86.7	10.7 ↑
Essex-Orleans	10,286	59.3	13,686	70.1	18.2 ↑
Franklin-G.I.	13,504	60.1	21,279	75.3	25.3 ↑
Lamoille	6,861	72.0	9,855	80.2	11.4 ↑
Orange	9,110	69.1	13,318	80.4	16.4 ↑
Rutland	24,502	70.0	32,196	79.4	13.4 ↑
Washington	22,575	72.8	28,951	81.3	11.7 ↑
Windham	16,445	72.0	22,451	81.7	13.5 ↑
Windsor	23,418	73.6	29,973	81.3	10.5 ↑
Vermont	209,542	71.0	288,608	80.8	13.8 ↑

World Wide Peace!

County-by-County

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Vermont Kids Count

Addison County

The southern most county in the Champlain Lowlands, Addison County offers beautiful views of Lake Champlain and the Adirondacks, and access to over 86,000 acres of national forest land.

Two notable Addison County homes provide revealing information about early Vermont. This country's first school of higher education for women was started by Emma Willard in her home in Middlebury; and Rokeby, now a museum, was the home of Rachael and Rowland Robinson of Ferrisburgh and had served as an important stop along the western Vermont route of the Underground Railroad.

***Data Notes**: Following statewide trends, abuse and neglect have declined while sexual abuse and neglect have risen. However, both are well below the state average. The number and percent of children receiving Food Stamps has increased substantially in this county.*

Population

	1980	1990	1993	Percent change 1990-1993
Children under 18	8,616	8,601	8,687	1.0
Total population	29,406	32,953	35,060	6.4
Children as a percentage of total population	29.3	26.1	24.8	

Children in Custody

	1989[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1989[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases					
Average daily number	41	71			
Average daily rate	47	82	74.5	57	81
Delinquent Custody Cases					
Average daily number	8	20			
Average daily rate	10	24	140.0	15	23
Unmanageable Custody Cases					
Average daily number	22	29			
Average daily rate	25	34	36.0	20	33

[1] *Average 1989-1990* [2] *Average 1991-1992*

Child Abuse and Neglect

Confirmed reports of child abuse by type

	1985[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1985[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Child Abuse and Neglect					
Total Victims	63	50			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	74	58	-21.6	103	102
Physical Abuse					
Physical Abuse Victims	30	15			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	35	17	-51.4	46	29
Sexual Abuse					
Sexual Abuse Victims	25	27			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	29	31	6.9	40	54
Neglect					
Neglect Victims	9	11			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	11	13	18.2	14	28

[1] *Average 1984-1986* [2] *Average 1990-1992*

Addison County

Family Health

	Number 1981[1]	Rate 1981[1]	Number 1991[3]	Rate 1991[3]	Percent change in rate 1981-1991	Vermont Rate 1981[1]	Vermont Rate 1991[3]
Early prenatal care	381	81.1	395	82.7	2.0	79.1	83.4
Low birthweight babies	30	6.3	30	5.9	-6.3	6.0	5.5
Infant mortality	4	7.7	4	8.7	13.0	9.4	6.4
Births to single teens	18	3.7	26	5.2	40.5	5.6	6.3
Births to all teens	43	9.0	36	7.2	-20.0	12.1	8.8
Child deaths	2	30.7	2	29.5	-3.9	43.5	23.7
Teen violent deaths	4	128.9	1	36.6	-71.6	78.5	58.6
New families at risk	10	5.1	15	7.5	47.1	7.1	8.1

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.

Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

Economic Security

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Child poverty rate	11.3	12.0	12.3	14.3	14.1
Vermont child poverty rate	11.5	13.0	14.9	16.0	16.1

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.

[1]1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
[2]1991 = Average of 1990 -1992
[3]1989
[4]1989-1993

New Families at Risk: First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling.

	Number 1990	Rate 1990	Number 1993	Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993	Vermont Rate 1990	Vermont Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993
Children dependent on ANFC	593	6.9	738	8.5	23.2	9.8	12.5	27.6
Children dependent on food stamps	812	9.4	1,263	14.5	54.3	12.0	18.0	50.0
Children receiving free and reduced lunches	637[1]	14.5[1]	1,129	24.3	67.6[4]	18.6[1]	24.6	32.3[4]

Vermont Kids Count

Bennington County

Located in Vermont's Southwest Region, Bennington County is bordered by the Taconic Range on the west and on the east by the Green Mountains. This diverse valley includes the largest tract of Green Mountain National Forest land in Vermont near Mount Tabor, more than 123,000 acres.

Bennington County played a significant role in Vermont's early history. In a Dorset tavern, the Green Mountain Boys declared Vermont's independence in 1776. The Battle of Bennington is commemorated in a monument on a hill within the Bennington city limits. Dorset lays claim to being the first marble quarry mined in North America.

***Data Notes**: The percentage of mothers receiving prenatal care in the first trimester has increased substantially, reflecting state trends. Births to teens have been dropping here but are still above the state average.*

Population

	1980	1990	1993	Percent change 1990-1993
Children under 18	9,330	8,993	8,981	-0.1
Total population	33,345	35,845	35,740	-0.3
Children as a percentage of total population	28.0	25.1	25.1	

Children in Custody

	1989[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1989[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases					
Average daily number	49	64			
Average daily rate	54	72	33.3	57	81
Delinquent Custody Cases					
Average daily number	20	24			
Average daily rate	22	27	22.7	15	23
Unmanageable Custody Cases					
Average daily number	14	24			
Average daily rate	15	27	80.0	20	33

[1] *Average 1989-1990* [2] *Average 1991-1992*

Child Abuse and Neglect

Confirmed reports of child abuse by type

	1985[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1985[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Child Abuse and Neglect					
Total Victims	86	82			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	95	91	-4.2	103	102
Physical Abuse					
Physical Abuse Victims	31	17			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	34	19	-44.1	46	29
Sexual Abuse					
Sexual Abuse Victims	46	45			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	51	51	0	40	54
Neglect					
Neglect Victims	10	22			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	11	25	127.3	14	28

[1] *Average 1984-1986* [2] *Average 1990-1992*

Bennington County

Family Health

	Number 1981[1]	Rate 1981[1]	Number 1991[2]	Rate 1991[2]	Percent change in rate 1981-1991	Vermont Rate 1981[1]	Vermont Rate 1991[2]
Early prenatal care	385	74.4	376	81.5	9.5	79.1	83.4
Low birthweight babies	28	5.4	26	5.5	1.9	6.0	5.5
Infant mortality	6	12.0	1	1.4	-88.3	9.4	6.4
Births to single teens	38	7.2	41	8.6	19.4	5.6	6.3
Births to all teens	77	14.7	55	11.6	-21.1	12.1	8.8
Child deaths	3	42.8	3	37.4	-12.6	43.5	23.7
Teen violent deaths	2	55.6	1	58.6	5.4	78.5	58.6
New families at risk	19	8.0	21	11.6	45.0	7.1	8.1

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.

Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

Economic Security

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Child poverty rate	16.1	15.7	17.5	18.5	17.9
Vermont child poverty rate	11.5	13.0	14.9	16.0	16.1

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.

[1]1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
[2]1991 = Average of 1990 - 1992
[3]1989
[4]1989-1993

New Families at Risk: First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling.

	Number 1990	Rate 1990	Number 1993	Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993	Vermont Rate 1990	Vermont Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993
Children dependent on ANFC	1,068	11.8	1,200	13.4	13.6	9.8	12.5	27.6
Children dependent on food stamps	1,284	14.2	1,719	19.1	34.5	12.0	18.0	50.0
Children receiving free and reduced lunches	862[3]	16.3[3]	1,222	23.8	46.0[4]	18.6[3]	24.6	32.3[4]

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Vermont Kids Count

Caledonia County

Caledonia County is the southern most border of the region dubbed the "Northeast Kingdom" by Vermont's late Senator George Aiken. As part of the region known as Vermont's "outback", Caledonia County is abundant in state forest and park acres.

Home of the platform scale invented by Thaddeus Fairbanks in 1830, Caledonia County boasts the Historic District of St. Johnsbury which includes the Athenaeum, a museum containing the nation's oldest art gallery in its authentic condition and the Fairbanks Museum of Natural History and planetarium.

***Data Notes**: Contrary to the Vermont trend, there has been no change in the rate of births to all teens. There has been a substantial decrease of physical abuse.*

Population

	1980	1990	1993	Percent change 1990-1993
Children under 18	7,585	7,680	7,758	1.0
Total population	25,808	27,846	28,202	1.3
Children as a percentage of total population	29.4	27.6	27.5	

Children in Custody

	1989[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1989[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases					
Average daily number	73	105			
Average daily rate	95	136	43.2	57	81
Delinquent Custody Cases					
Average daily number	6	11			
Average daily rate	8	14	75.0	15	23
Unmanageable Custody Cases					
Average daily number	14	24			
Average daily rate	18	31	72.2	20	33

[1] *Average 1989-1990* [2] *Average 1991-1992*

Child Abuse and Neglect

Confirmed reports of child abuse by type

	1985[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1985[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Child Abuse and Neglect					
Total Victims	86	89			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	113	115	1.8	103	102
Physical Abuse					
Physical Abuse Victims	33	20			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	44	26	-40.9	46	29
Sexual Abuse					
Sexual Abuse Victims	33	49			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	44	64	45.5	40	54
Neglect					
Neglect Victims	13	26			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	18	33	83.3	14	28

[1] *Average 1984-1986* [2] *Average 1990-1992*

Caledonia County

Family Health

	Number 1981[1]	Rate 1981[1]	Number 1991[2]	Rate 1991[2]	Percent change in rate 1981-1991	Vermont Rate 1981[1]	Vermont Rate 1991[2]
Early prenatal care	314	78.4	300	84.8	8.2	79.1	83.4
Low birthweight babies	21	5.2	13	3.6	-30.8	6.0	5.5
Infant mortality	5	11.6	2	6.4	-44.8	9.4	6.4
Births to single teens	20	5.0	33	9.0	80.0	5.6	6.3
Births to all teens	51	12.6	46	12.6	0	12.1	8.8
Child deaths	2	35.3	2	33.1	-6.2	43.5	23.7
Teen violent deaths	3	109.2	<1	16.3	-85.1	78.5	58.6
New families at risk	12	7.3	18	13.1	79.5	7.1	8.1

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.

Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

Economic Security

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Child poverty rate	15.7	17.1	19.5	20.1	20.4
Vermont child poverty rate	11.5	13.0	14.9	16.0	16.1

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.

[1]1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
[2]1991 = Average of 1990 -1992
[3]1989
[4]1989-1993

New Families at Risk: First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling.

	Number 1990	Rate 1990	Number 1993	Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993	Vermont Rate 1990	Vermont Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993
Children dependent on ANFC	905	11.8	1,136	14.6	23.7	9.8	12.5	27.6
Children dependent on food stamps	1,197	15.5	1,788	23.0	48.4	12.0	18.0	50.0
Children receiving free and reduced lunches	1,124[3]	27.5[3]	1,645	33.7	22.5[4]	18.6[3]	24.6	32.3[4]

Vermont Kids Count

Chittenden County

One of four counties which comprise the Lake Champlain Lowlands, Chittenden County is home to Vermont's largest urban center where approximately one fourth of the population of the state reside. It is a diverse region of open farmlands, mountain vistas and lake beaches as well as urban and suburban residential areas.

In keeping with this county's mix of urban and rural history, the first factory heated by steam was located in Chittenden County and it was also home to Wilson (Snowflake) Bentley, who successfully photographed two natural phenomenon abundant in Vermont: snowflakes and raindrops.

***Data Notes**: While the percent of births that are to teens has dropped substantially here, and is now the lowest in the state, the rate of Unmanageable Children in Custody is very high.*

Population

	1980	1990	1993	Percent change 1990-1993
Children under 18	31,792	30,816	31,179	1.2
Total population	115,534	131,761	136,773	3.8
Children as a percentage of total population	27.5	23.4	22.8	

Children in Custody

	1989[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1989[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases					
Average daily number	95	192			
Average daily rate	31	62	100.0	57	81
Delinquent Custody Cases					
Average daily number	53	73			
Average daily rate	17	24	41.2	15	23
Unmanageable Custody Cases					
Average daily number	80	161			
Average daily rate	26	52	100.0	20	33

[1] *Average 1989-1990* [2] *Average 1991-1992*

Child Abuse and Neglect

Confirmed reports of child abuse by type

	1985[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1985[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Child Abuse and Neglect					
Total Victims	271	315			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	87	101	16.1	103	102
Physical Abuse					
Physical Abuse Victims	124	105			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	40	34	-15.0	46	29
Sexual Abuse					
Sexual Abuse Victims	97	149			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	31	48	54.8	40	54
Neglect					
Neglect Victims	35	83			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	11	27	145.5	14	28

[1] *Average 1984-1986* [2] *Average 1990-1992*

Chittenden County

Family Health

	Number 1981[1]	Rate 1981[1]	Number 1991[3]	Rate 1991[3]	Percent change in rate 1981-1991	Vermont Rate 1981[1]	Vermont Rate 1991[3]
Early prenatal care	1,437	85.8	1,592	86.1	0.3	79.1	83.4
Low birthweight babies	100	6.0	106	5.5	-8.3	6.0	5.5
Infant mortality	15	9.1	14	7.2	-20.9	9.4	6.4
Births to single teens	81	4.8	102	5.3	10.4	5.6	6.3
Births to all teens	160	9.5	134	6.9	-27.4	12.1	8.8
Child deaths	8	35.3	4	17.7	-49.9	43.5	23.7
Teen violent deaths	6	43.4	5	44.0	1.4	78.5	58.6
New families at risk	45	5.6	51	6.2	10.7	7.1	8.1

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18
Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18
Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18

Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births
Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14
Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19

Economic Security

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Child poverty rate	8.0	9.3	11.0	12.1	11.8
Vermont child poverty rate	11.5	13.0	14.9	16.0	16.1

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.

[1]1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
[2]1991 = Average of 1990 -1992
[3]1989
[4]1989-1993

New Families at Risk: First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling

	Number 1990	Rate 1990	Number 1993	Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993	Vermont Rate 1990	Vermont Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993
Children dependent on ANFC	2,661	8.6	3,352	10.8	25.6	9.8	12.5	27.6
Children dependent on food stamps	2,748	8.9	4,217	13.5	51.7	12.0	18.0	50.0
Children receiving free and reduced lunches	2,340[1]	12.2[1]	3,279	16.4	34.4[4]	18.6[1]	24.6	32.3[4]

90

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Vermont Kids Count

Essex / Orleans Counties

These two counties equal more than 1400 square miles of the Northeast Kingdom and offer access to more lakes than anywhere else in Vermont. Vermont's lowest temperature of -50° F was recorded here.

In keeping with Vermont's unique history, this region has been a leader in the field of education. The nation's first Normal School for the sole purpose of training teachers was founded in Essex County. Orleans County preserves the Old Stone House Museum, a school designed and built by hand of solid granite blocks by its teacher, Reverend Alexander Twilight. He is believed to be this country's first African American college graduate and state legislator.

***Data Notes**: These counties show a low rate of unmanageable custody cases but a continuing rise in new families at risk. (Due to the small populations of these neighboring counties Essex and Orleans data have been combined.)*

Population

	1980	1990	1993	Percent change 1990-1993
Children under 18	9,267	8,532	8,485	-0.6
Total population	29,753	30,458	31,278	2.7
Children as a percentage of total population	31.1	28.0	27.1	

Children in Custody

	1989[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1989[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases					
Average daily number	72	89			
Average daily rate	84	103	22.6	57	81
Delinquent Custody Cases					
Average daily number	15	29			
Average daily rate	17	34	100.0	15	23
Unmanageable Custody Cases					
Average daily number	8	15			
Average daily rate	9	17	88.9	20	33

[1] *Average 1989-1990* [2] *Average 1991-1992*

Child Abuse and Neglect

Confirmed reports of child abuse by type

	1985[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1985[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Child Abuse and Neglect					
Total Victims	110	104			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	125	121	-3.2	103	102
Physical Abuse					
Physical Abuse Victims	41	16			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	47	19	-59.6	46	29
Sexual Abuse					
Sexual Abuse Victims	45	76			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	51	89	74.5	40	54
Neglect					
Neglect Victims	24	23			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	27	26	-3.7	14	28

[1] *Average 1984-1986* [2] *Average 1990-1992*

Family Health

	Number 1981[1]	Rate 1981[1]	Number 1991[2]	Rate 1991[2]	Percent change in rate 1981-1991	Vermont Rate 1981[1]	Vermont Rate 1991[2]
Early prenatal care	322	67.9	324	82.7	21.8	79.1	83.4
Low birthweight babies	27	5.6	29	7.1	26.8	6.0	5.5
Infant mortality	5	9.6	2	5.7	-40.6	9.4	6.4
Births to single teens	24	5.0	38	9.2	84.0	5.6	6.3
Births to all teens	69	14.2	54	13.0	-8.5	12.1	8.8
Child deaths	6	81.6	2	34.2	-58.1	43.5	23.7
Teen violent deaths	3	126.4	1	64.9	-48.7	78.5	58.6
New families at risk	15	7.4	18	11.8	59.5	7.1	8.1

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.

Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

Economic Security

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Child poverty rate	18.2	18.6	20.8	21.8	22.3
Vermont child poverty rate	11.5	13.0	14.9	16.0	16.1

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.

[1]1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
[2]1991 = Average of 1990 -1992
[3]1989
[4]1989-1993

New Families at Risk: First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling.

	Number 1990	Rate 1990	Number 1993	Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993	Vermont Rate 1990	Vermont Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993
Children dependent on ANFC	1,137	13.3	1,378	16.2	21.8	9.8	12.5	27.6
Children dependent on food stamps	1,586	18.6	2,260	26.6	43.0	12.0	18.0	50.0
Children receiving free and reduced lunches	1,719[3]	34.4[3]	2,523	40.2	16.9[4]	18.6[3]	24.6	32.3[4]

Vermont Kids Count

Franklin Grand Isle Counties

Franklin and Grand Isle Counties are, respectively, the most northern and western counties of the Lake Champlain Lowland region. Franklin is home to Vermont's only federal wildlife habitat, the Missiquoi National Wildlife Refuge. Grand Isle promises beautiful views and easy access to Lake Champlain with varied recreational activities available.

Both counties share significant early history with Vermont's first permanent European settlement established at Fort St. Anne on Isle LaMotte. It is also home to the region's oldest Native American settlement in Swanton, populated now by members of the Abenaki nation.

***Data Notes**: New data on custody cases show increases in all categories during the 1990s, while the percentage of all births to women under twenty dropped substantially. (Due to the small population of Grand Isle County data has been combined with Franklin County.)*

Population

	1980	1990	1993	Percent change 1990-1993
Children under 18	12,638	13,191	13,399	1.6
Total population	39,401	45,298	47,305	4.4
Children as a percentage of total population	32.1	29.1	28.3	

Children in Custody

	1989[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1989[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases					
Average daily number	131	184			
Average daily rate	99	136	37.4	57	81
Delinquent Custody Cases					
Average daily number	16	32			
Average daily rate	12	23	91.7	15	23
Unmanageable Custody Cases					
Average daily number	22	42			
Average daily rate	17	31	82.4	20	33

[1] *Average 1989-1990* [2] *Average 1991-1992*

Child Abuse and Neglect

Confirmed reports of child abuse by type

	1985[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1985[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Child Abuse and Neglect					
Total Victims	94	151			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	73	112	53.4	103	102
Physical Abuse					
Physical Abuse Victims	43	43			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	34	32	-5.9	46	29
Sexual Abuse					
Sexual Abuse Victims	35	88			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	27	66	144.4	40	54
Neglect					
Neglect Victims	13	31			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	10	23	130.0	14	28

[1] *Average 1984-1986* [2] *Average 1990-1992*

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Family Health

	Number 1981[1]	Rate 1981[1]	Number 1991[2]	Rate 1991[2]	Percent change in rate 1981-1991	Vermont Rate 1981[1]	Vermont Rate 1991[2]
Early prenatal care	533	77.3	633	83.4	7.9	79.1	83.4
Low birthweight babies	42	6.0	44	5.5	-8.3	6.0	5.5
Infant mortality	6	9.0	4	5.0	-44.4	9.4	6.4
Births to single teens	56	8.0	49	6.1	-23.8	5.6	6.3
Births to all teens	106	15.1	69	8.7	-42.4	12.1	8.8
Child deaths	3	34.6	2	22.1	-36.1	43.5	23.7
Teen violent deaths	1	37.4	4	120	220.1	78.5	58.6
New families at risk	32	10.4	27	9.0	-13.5	7.1	8.1

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.

Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

Economic Security

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Child poverty rate	12.6	13.9	15.5	15.9	16.6
Vermont child poverty rate	11.5	13.0	14.9	16.0	16.1

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.

[1]1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
[2]1991 = Average of 1990 -1992
[3]1989
[4]1989-1993

New Families at Risk: First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling.

	Number 1990	Rate 1990	Number 1993	Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993	Vermont Rate 1990	Vermont Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993
Children dependent on ANFC	1,434	10.8	1,731	12.9	19.4	9.8	12.5	27.6
Children dependent on food stamps	1,811	13.7	2,570	19.2	40.1	12.0	18.0	50.0
Children receiving free and reduced lunches	1,957[3]	21.7[3]	2,699	28.4	30.9[4]	18.6[3]	24.6	32.3[4]

Vermont Kids Count

Lamoille County

Creating the northernmost boundaries of the Central Vermont Region, Lamoille County is among the region's most rural 476 square miles of scenic and hilly terrain which boasts Vermont's highest peak, Mt. Mansfield.

Not surprisingly, Lamoille County is home to Stowe, one of the first ski resort areas in the U.S. In 1940 the first chair lift was constructed. Long before Mt. Mansfield had resort status, the mountain region was used to smuggle cattle to Canada during the 1808-1809 trade embargo with England. Today, an important resort area still bears the name Smuggler's Notch.

***Data Notes**: Increases took place in all custody indicators though Lamoille's figures are still below the state average. Statewide negative economic trends were especially evident here.*

Population

	1980	1990	1993	Percent change 1990-1993
Children under 18	4,830	5,072	5,121	1.0
Total population	16,767	19,735	20,612	4.4
Children as a percentage of total population	28.8	25.7	24.8	

Children in Custody

	1989[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1989[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases					
Average daily number	30	37			
Average daily rate	58	72	24.1	57	81
Delinquent Custody Cases					
Average daily number	4	10			
Average daily rate	8	20	150.0	15	23
Unmanageable Custody Cases					
Average daily number	10	14			
Average daily rate	19	26	36.8	20	33

[1] *Average 1989-1990* [2] *Average 1991-1992*

Child Abuse and Neglect

Confirmed reports of child abuse by type

	1985[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1985[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Child Abuse and Neglect					
Total Victims	35	32			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	71	63	-11.3	103	102
Physical Abuse					
Physical Abuse Victims	13	12			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	26	23	-11.5	46	29
Sexual Abuse					
Sexual Abuse Victims	18	17			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	36	33	-8.3	40	54
Neglect					
Neglect Victims	4	7			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	8	13	62.5	14	28

[1] *Average 1984-1986* [2] *Average 1990-1992*

Franklin County

Family Health

	Number 1981[1]	Rate 1981[1]	Number 1991[2]	Rate 1991[2]	Percent change in rate 1981-1991	Vermont Rate 1981[1]	Vermont Rate 1991[2]
Early prenatal care	210	75.9	239	85.2	12.3	79.1	83.4
Low birthweight babies	20	7.1	12	4.2	-40.8	6.0	5.5
Infant mortality	2	7.2	2	8.0	11.1	9.4	6.4
Births to single teens	16	5.6	20	6.7	19.6	5.6	6.3
Births to all teens	39	14.1	30	10.2	-27.7	12.1	8.8
Child deaths	2	45.2	<1	16.3	-63.9	43.5	23.7
Teen violent deaths	4	244.2	<1	22.3	-90.9	78.5	58.6
New families at risk	10	7.9	11	9.6	21.5	7.1	8.1

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.

Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

Economic Security

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Child poverty rate	12.0	17.2	17.8	19.0	19.6
Vermont child poverty rate	11.5	13.0	14.9	16.0	16.1

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.

[1]1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
[2]1991 = Average of 1990 -1992
[3]1989
[4]1989-1993

New Families at Risk: First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling.

	Number 1990	Rate 1990	Number 1993	Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993	Vermont Rate 1990	Vermont Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993
Children dependent on ANFC	451	8.9	547	10.7	20.2	9.8	12.5	27.6
Children dependent on food stamps	625	12.3	912	17.8	44.7	12.0	18.0	50.0
Children receiving free and reduced lunches	670[3]	19.9[3]	1,035	28.0	40.7[4]	18.6[3]	24.6	32.3[4]

Vermont Kids Count

Orange County

Orange County is the only county in the Central Region to border New Hampshire. As part of a region known for its high elevations, this county also provides the region's lowland which is found along the scenic Connecticut River, its eastern border.

Some of Orange County's many historic sites include a rare, floating bridge in Brookfield, the Homestead of Senator Justin Smith Morrill who authored the Acts establishing Land Grant Colleges in the United States and the hometown of Samuel Morey, inventor of steam and gas engines.

***Data Notes**: Births to all teens shows little change in Orange County and remains high, well above the state average. Bucking the Vermont trend of slower growth in child population, Orange County's child population actually increased substantially between 1990 and 1993.*

Population

	1980	1990	1993	Percent change 1990-1993
Children under 18	6,845	7,242	7,432	2.6
Total population	22,739	26,149	26,180	0.1
Children as a percentage of total population	30.1	27.7	28.4	

Children in Custody

	1989[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1989[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases					
Average daily number	33	37			
Average daily rate	45	51	13.3	57	81
Delinquent Custody Cases					
Average daily number	4	9			
Average daily rate	6	12	100.0	15	23
Unmanageable Custody Cases					
Average daily number	4	10			
Average daily rate	6	13	116.7	20	33

[1] *Average 1989-1990* [2] *Average 1991-1992*

Child Abuse and Neglect

Confirmed reports of child abuse by type

	1985[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1985[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Child Abuse and Neglect					
Total Victims	80	57			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	115	78	-32.2	103	102
Physical Abuse					
Physical Abuse Victims	37	18			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	54	25	-53.7	46	29
Sexual Abuse					
Sexual Abuse Victims	35	32			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	51	44	-13.7	40	54
Neglect					
Neglect Victims	6	12			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	9	17	88.9	14	28

[1] *Average 1984-1986* [2] *Average 1990-1992*

Family Health

	Number 1981[1]	Rate 1981[1]	Number 1991[2]	Rate 1991[2]	Percent change in rate 1981-1991	Vermont Rate 1981[1]	Vermont Rate 1991[2]
Early prenatal care	296	80.4	303	84.7	5.3	79.1	83.4
Low birthweight babies	20	5.4	16	4.3	-20.4	6.0	5.5
Infant mortality	2	6.2	1	3.6	-41.9	9.4	6.4
Births to single teens	18	4.8	29	7.8	62.5	5.6	6.3
Births to all teens	43	11.6	42	11.2	-3.4	12.1	8.8
Child deaths	2	38.6	1	17.4	-54.9	43.5	23.7
Teen violent deaths	4	174.4	<1	18.2	-89.6	78.5	58.6
New families at risk	11	7.1	13	8.9	25.4	7.1	8.1

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.

Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

Economic Security

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Child poverty rate	11.2	14.1	17.0	17.7	17.8
Vermont child poverty rate	11.5	13.0	14.9	16.0	16.1

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.

[1]1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
[2]1991 = Average of 1990 - 1992
[3]1989
[4]1989-1993

New Families at Risk: First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling.

	Number 1990	Rate 1990	Number 1993	Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993	Vermont Rate 1990	Vermont Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993
Children dependent on ANFC	607	8.4	863	11.6	38.1	9.8	12.5	27.6
Children dependent on food stamps	815	11.2	1,358	18.3	63.4	12.0	18.0	50.0
Children receiving free and reduced lunches	1,021[3]	22.6[3]	1,698	30.8	36.3[4]	18.6[3]	24.6	32.3[4]

Vermont Kids Count

Rutland County

Rutland is the Southwest Region's northernmost county. Over 5,600 acres of Green Mountain National Forest keep company with Lake Bomoseen, the state's largest lake located entirely within the borders of Vermont.

Rutland County shares in the Southwest Region's early history with the only Revolutionary War battle taking place in Hubbardton on July 7, 1777. Only 13 years later, the first U.S. patent was issued to Samuel Hopkins of Pittsford. This county also boasts the birthplace of this country's first state symphony orchestra.

***Data Notes**: Custody indicators show high rates of delinquent and unmanageable children cases in Rutland County. Although there is an increase in the county's rate of child neglect, it is still one of lowest in the state.*

Population

	1980	1990	1993	Percent change 1990-1993
Children under 18	15,825	14,993	14,932	-0.4
Total population	58,347	62,142	62,849	1.1
Children as a percentage of total population	27.1	24.1	23.8	

Children in Custody

	1989[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1989[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases					
Average daily number	86	105			
Average daily rate	57	70	22.8	57	81
Delinquent Custody Cases					
Average daily number	35	48			
Average daily rate	23	32	39.1	15	23
Unmanageable Custody Cases					
Average daily number	49	72			
Average daily rate	33	48	45.5	20	33

[1] *Average 1989-1990* [2] *Average 1991-1992*

Child Abuse and Neglect

Confirmed reports of child abuse by type

	1985[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1985[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Child Abuse and Neglect					
Total Victims	132	98			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	87	65	-25.3	103	102
Physical Abuse					
Physical Abuse Victims	40	23			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	26	15	-42.3	46	29
Sexual Abuse					
Sexual Abuse Victims	62	57			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	40	38	-5.0	40	54
Neglect					
Neglect Victims	23	25			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	15	17	13.3	14	28

[1] *Average 1984-1986* [2] *Average 1990-1992*

Windham County

Family Health

	Number 1981[1]	Rate 1981[1]	Number 1991[2]	Rate 1991[2]	Percent change in rate 1981-1991	Vermont Rate 1981[1]	Vermont Rate 1991[2]
Early prenatal care	627	76.0	621	78.1	2.8	79.1	83.4
Low birthweight babies	60	7.1	46	5.6	-21.1	6.0	5.5
Infant mortality	8	9.2	5	5.7	-38.0	9.4	6.4
Births to single teens	49	5.8	50	6.1	5.2	5.6	6.3
Births to all teens	100	11.9	69	8.4	-29.4	12.1	8.8
Child deaths	6	51.0	2	19.6	-61.6	43.5	23.7
Teen violent deaths	3	54.4	2	48.3	-11.2	78.5	58.6
New families at risk	27	7.6	26	8.4	10.5	7.1	8.1

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.

Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

Economic Security

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Child poverty rate	10.8	13.0	15.4	16.7	17.4
Vermont child poverty rate	11.5	13.0	14.9	16.0	16.1

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.

[1]1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
[2]1991 = Average of 1990 -1992
[3]1989
[4]1989-1993

New Families at Risk: First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling

	Number 1990	Rate 1990	Number 1993	Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993	Vermont Rate 1990	Vermont Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993
Children dependent on ANFC	1,559	10.4	2,159	14.5	39.4	9.8	12.5	27.6
Children dependent on food stamps	1,871	12.4	3,043	20.4	64.5	12.0	18.0	50.0
Children receiving free and reduced lunches	1,636[3]	18.1[3]	2,503	24.5	35.4[4]	18.6[3]	24.6	32.3[4]

Vermont Kids Count

Washington County

The centermost of three counties comprising the Central Vermont Region, Washington County has its share of hills and peaks with almost 6,000 acres of National Forest Land.

This county shares Vermont's largest granite quarries of Barre with the nation's smallest state capital, Montpelier. Consuelo Northrup Bailey, the United State's first female Lieutenant Governor, took office here in the mid 1950's.

***Data Notes**: Washington County's child neglect rate increased between the mid-1980s and the early 1990s. Births to all teens decreased substantially here.*

Population

	1980	1990	1993	Percent change 1990-1993
Children under 18	14,642	13,940	13,929	-0.1
Total population	52,393	54,928	55,938	1.8
Children as a percentage of total population	27.9	25.4	24.9	

Children in Custody

	1989[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1989[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases					
Average daily number	94	122			
Average daily rate	67	86	28.4	57	81
Delinquent Custody Cases					
Average daily number	23	33			
Average daily rate	16	24	50.0	15	23
Unmanageable Custody Cases					
Average daily number	21	24			
Average daily rate	15	17	13.3	20	33

[1] *Average 1989-1990* [2] *Average 1991-1992*

Child Abuse and Neglect

Confirmed reports of child abuse by type

	1985[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1985[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Child Abuse and Neglect					
Total Victims	178	159			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	126	113	-10.3	103	102
Physical Abuse					
Physical Abuse Victims	89	41			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	63	29	-54.0	46	29
Sexual Abuse					
Sexual Abuse Victims	74	86			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	52	61	17.3	40	54
Neglect					
Neglect Victims	20	51			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	14	37	164.3	14	28

[1] *Average 1984-1986* [2] *Average 1990-1992*

Washington County

Family Health

	Number 1981[1]	Rate 1981[1]	Number 1991[2]	Rate 1991[2]	Percent change in rate 1981-1991	Vermont Rate 1981[1]	Vermont Rate 1991[2]
Early prenatal care	653	82.6	624	87.2	5.6	79.1	83.4
Low birthweight babies	50	6.3	45	6.1	-3.2	6.0	5.5
Infant mortality	9	10.9	7	9.5	-12.8	9.4	6.4
Births to single teens	42	5.3	39	5.3	0	5.6	6.3
Births to all teens	98	12.3	57	7.7	-37.4	12.1	8.8
Child deaths	5	45.7	2	20.9	-54.3	43.5	23.7
Teen violent deaths	2	40.9	3	74.4	81.9	78.5	58.6
New families at risk	25	7.1	19	6.3	-11.3	7.1	8.1

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.

Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

Economic Security

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Child poverty rate	9.9	11.9	14.2	15.3	15.2
Vermont child poverty rate	11.5	13.0	14.9	16.0	16.1

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.

[1]1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
[2]1991 = Average of 1990 -1992
[3]1989
[4]1989-1993

New Families at Risk: First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling

	Number 1990	Rate 1990	Number 1993	Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993	Vermont Rate 1990	Vermont Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993
Children dependent on ANFC	1,255	9.0	1,664	11.9	32.2	9.8	12.5	27.6
Children dependent on food stamps	1,542	11.0	2,294	16.5	50.0	12.0	18.0	50.0
Children receiving free and reduced lunches	1,610[3]	17.4[3]	2,010	20.8	19.5[4]	18.6[3]	24.6	32.3[4]

Vermont Kids Count

Windham County

Bordered on the west by rolling, hilly land called the Vermont Piedmont, and on the east by the Connecticut River and south by Massachusetts, Windham County is home to about about 31,000 acres of the Green Mountain National Forest.

Windham County shares Vermont's history of progressive thought and activities. Windham County was home to Clarina Howard Nichols, one of the nation's first woman newspaper editors and activists. She was also the first woman to address the Vermont Legislature, on the topic of Women's Suffrage. Her effort spearheaded legislation passed which granted Vermont's first property rights guaranteed to married women.

***Data Notes**: In line with statewide trends, the percent of births to teens dropped substantially between the early 1980s and the early 1990s. However all four child abuse and neglect indicators remain above the state average.*

Population

	1980	1990	1993	Percent change 1990-1993
Children under 18	10,055	10,630	10,646	0.2
Total population	36,933	41,588	42,426	2.0
Children as a percentage of total population	27.2	25.6	25.1	

Children in Custody

	1989[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1989[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases					
Average daily number	43	59			
Average daily rate	40	55	37.5	57	81
Delinquent Custody Cases					
Average daily number	19	32			
Average daily rate	18	30	66.7	15	23
Unmanageable Custody Cases					
Average daily number	15	25			
Average daily rate	14	23	64.3	20	33

[1] *Average 1989-1990* [2] *Average 1991-1992*

Child Abuse and Neglect

Confirmed reports of child abuse by type

	1985[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1985[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Child Abuse and Neglect					
Total Victims	165	163			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	161	152	-5.6	103	102
Physical Abuse					
Physical Abuse Victims	75	55			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	73	52	-28.8	46	29
Sexual Abuse					
Sexual Abuse Victims	58	65			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	57	61	7.0	40	54
Neglect					
Neglect Victims	30	58			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	29	54	86.2	14	28

[1] *Average 1984-1986* [2] *Average 1990-1992*

Windham County

Family Health

	Number 1981[1]	Rate 1981[1]	Number 1991[2]	Rate 1991[2]	Percent change in rate 1981-1991	Vermont Rate 1981[1]	Vermont Rate 1991[2]
Early prenatal care	451	75.2	452	80.7	7.3	79.1	83.4
Low birthweight babies	36	6.0	32	5.4	-10.0	6.0	5.5
Infant mortality	6	9.9	3	4.5	-54.5	9.4	6.4
Births to single teens	34	5.7	39	6.5	14.0	5.6	6.3
Births to all teens	79	13.0	51	8.6	-33.8	12.1	8.8
Child deaths	3	39.5	2	23.4	-40.8	43.5	23.7
Teen violent deaths	4	143.6	3	109.5	-23.7	78.5	58.6
New families at risk	18	6.6	19	8.0	21.2	7.1	8.1

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.

Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19.

Economic Security

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Child poverty rate	12.2	14.4	16.2	17.4	16.9
Vermont child poverty rate	11.5	13.0	14.9	16.0	16.1

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.

[1]1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
[2]1991 = Average of 1990 -1992
[3]1989
[4]1989-1993

New Families at Risk: First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling.

	Number 1990	Rate 1990	Number 1993	Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993	Vermont Rate 1990	Vermont Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993
Children dependent on ANFC	1,188	11.1	1,391	13.1	18.0	9.8	12.5	27.6
Children dependent on food stamps	1,441	13.5	1,971	18.5	37.0	12.0	18.0	50.0
Children receiving free and reduced lunches	831[3]	23.5[3]	1,324	25.1	6.8[4]	18.6[3]	24.6	32.3[4]

Vermont Kids Count

Windsor County

One of the two counties which comprise the southeast region, Windsor County is nestled between the Green Mountains to the west and the scenic Connecticut River to the east. More than 21,000 acres of county land are a part of the Green Mountain National Forest.

In 1777 delegates met in a Windsor tavern to adopt Vermont's Constitution, supporting Windsor's claim to being the "birthplace of Vermont." Vermont's Constitution was the first one of the states to prohibit slavery and establish universal suffrage for men. In addition, many inventions were spawned here and Springfield became world renowned for the skills of its machine tool and manufacturing industry workers.

***Data Notes**: Rates of sexual abuse and neglect increased substantially between the mid-1980s and early 1990s. While Windsor's rate of physical abuse dropped during that period, it remains above the state average.*

Population

	1980	1990	1993	Percent change 1990-1993
Children under 18	13,893	13,393	13,416	0.2
Total population	51,030	54,055	53,328	-1.3
Children as a percentage of total population	27.2	24.8	25.2	

Children in Custody

	1989[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1989[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Abuse/Neglect Custody Cases					
Average daily number	69	105			
Average daily rate	52	78	50.0	57	81
Delinquent Custody Cases					
Average daily number	14	15			
Average daily rate	11	11	0	15	23
Unmanageable Custody Cases					
Average daily number	27	35			
Average daily rate	20	26	30.0	20	33

[1] *Average 1989-1990* [2] *Average 1991-1992*

Child Abuse and Neglect

Confirmed reports of child abuse by type

	1985[1]	1991[2]	Percent change	Vermont 1985[1]	Vermont 1991[2]
Child Abuse and Neglect					
Total Victims	176	175			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	131	130	-0.8	103	102
Physical Abuse					
Physical Abuse Victims	94	51			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	69	38	-44.9	46	29
Sexual Abuse					
Sexual Abuse Victims	50	85			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	37	64	73.0	40	54
Neglect					
Neglect Victims	15	50			
Rate per 10,000 children under 18	11	38	245.5	14	28

[1] *Average 1984-1986* [2] *Average 1990-1992*

Windsor County

Family Health

	Number 1981[1]	Rate 1981[1]	Number 1991[3]	Rate 1991[3]	Percent change in rate 1981-1991	Vermont Rate 1981[1]	Vermont Rate 1991[3]
Early prenatal care	584	78.8	538	80.9	2.7	79.1	83.4
Low birthweight babies	41	5.4	42	6.2	14.8	6.0	5.5
Infant mortality	7	8.9	6	8.3	-6.7	9.4	6.4
Births to single teens	51	6.8	42	6.1	-10.3	5.6	6.3
Births to all teens	93	12.4	58	8.5	-31.5	12.1	8.8
Child deaths	5	51.7	3	28.0	-45.8	43.5	23.7
Teen violent deaths	3	72.8	3	89.8	23.4	78.5	58.6
New families at risk	25	7.2	18	6.8	-5.6	7.1	8.1

Rates for most of the indicators listed in these tables are expressed as percentages. Rates for some of the indicators, however, are presented using different metrics because percentages would show very small values. Rates for KIDS COUNT indicators not expressed as percentages are presented below:

Abuse/Neglect custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Delinquent custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.
Unmanageable custody = Average daily cases per 10,000 children under 18.

Infant mortality = Infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
Child deaths = Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14.
Teen violent deaths = Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19

Economic Security

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Child poverty rate	10.9	11.2	14.1	15.4	15.5
Vermont child poverty rate	11.5	13.0	14.9	16.0	16.1

Some of the years listed in the tables represent an average of three years.

[1]1981 = Average of 1980 - 1982
[2]1991 = Average of 1990 - 1992
[3]1989
[4]1989-1993

New Families at Risk: First births to single teenage mothers with less than 12 years of schooling.

	Number 1990	Rate 1990	Number 1993	Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993	Vermont Rate 1990	Vermont Rate 1993	Percent change in rate 1990-1993
Children dependent on ANFC	1,142	8.5	1,657	12.4	45.9	9.8	12.5	27.6
Children dependent on food stamps	1,376	10.3	2,315	17.3	68.0	12.0	18.0	50.0
Children receiving free and reduced lunches	1,432[3]	16.7[3]	2,057	22.0	31.7[4]	18.6[1]	24.6	32.3[4]

Appendix

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Notes on Statistics and Methodology

Abuse/Neglect Custody

Data on children in custody as a result of abuse and/or neglect were provided by the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Child population data were calculated from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing and Vermont Department of Health estimates between Census surveys. The number of abused and neglected children in custody represents an average daily number of custody cases averaged again for the years 1989-1990 and 1991-1992. The Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services determines average daily custody cases by calculating the number of custody days (days between opening and closing dates) for each case, totaling the number of custody days for all cases, and dividing by the number of days in the year. Annual numbers of average daily custody cases were averaged by Vermont KIDS COUNT for the years 1989-1990 and 1991-1992. Average daily rates of abused and neglected children in custody were calculated by summing the average daily number of custody cases for the two time periods and dividing by the sum of child population totals for the corresponding years. The resulting proportion was then multiplied by 10,000 to show the rate of abused and neglected children in custody per 10,000 children under 18.

Births to Teens

Data on births to teens were obtained from vital statistics files from the Vermont Department of Health, Division of Public Health Analysis and Policy. Births to teens are defined as live births that occur to women under age 20. Data are reported by the mother's residence. The number of births to teens represents a three-year average. The percentage of all births that are to teens was calculated by summing the number of births to teens over a three-year period, dividing by the total number of live births for that same period, and multiplying by 100.

Births to Single Teens

Data on births to single teens were obtained from vital statistics of the Vermont Department of Health, Division of Public Health Analysis and Policy. Births to single teens are defined as live births that occur to unmarried women under age 20. Data are reported by the mother's residence. The number of births to single teens is shown as a three-year average. The percentage of all births that are to single teens was calculated by summing the number of births to single teens over a three-year period, dividing by the total number of live births for that same period, and multiplying by 100.

Child Abuse

Child abuse data were provided by the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Child population data used in the calculation of rates are from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing and Health Department estimates for inter-censal years. Child abuse cases are defined as substantiated cases of physical abuse, sexual abuse, or neglect involving children under 18. The number of child abuse cases represents a three-year average. Child abuse rates were calculated using the total number of child abuse cases in a three-year period divided by the total of the child population for the corresponding years. The calculated proportion was multiplied by 10,000 to show the child abuse rate per 10,000 children under 18.

Child Deaths

Data on child deaths were taken from vital statistics of the Vermont Department of Health, Division of Public Health Analysis and Policy. Child population data used in the calculation of rates were taken from both the decennial U.S. Census of Population and Housing (1980 and 1990) and Health Department population estimates for inter-censal years. Child deaths include deaths from all causes to children ages 1 to 14. The number of child deaths is shown as a three-year average. The total number of child deaths in a three-year period was divided by the sum of the child populations for the corresponding years. The calculated proportion was multiplied by 100,000 to show the child death rate per 100,000 children ages 1 through 14.

Child Population

Data on child population are from the Census of Population and Housing STF1 (Summary Tape File), 1980 and 1990 and Health Department population estimates for inter-censal years. The number of children is defined as the total resident population under 18. Children as a percent of the total population is the total resident population under 18 divided by the total resident population, multiplied by 100.

Child Poverty

In addition to the 1989 child poverty rates taken from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing, annual county-level estimates of child poverty have been calculated for the years 1990 through 1993. Statistical relationships between the number of children in poverty in 1989 and the number of ANFC and Food Stamp recipients for that year were determined using regression analysis techniques. The number of ANFC recipients and Food Stamp recipients variables were found to explain over 97 percent of the variance for the number of children in poverty. Average percent errors for the 12 counties' predicted values were very low, which indicated a

good fit for the 1989 model. Numbers of ANFC and Food Stamp recipients for the years 1990, 1991, 1992 and 1993 were then substituted to provide annual estimates of the number of children in poverty. These estimates were then divided by county-level estimates of child populations produced by the Vermont Department of Health. The resulting proportion was then multiplied by 100 percent to provide annual county-level estimates of the percent of children living in poverty.

Children in Households Receiving ANFC Benefits

Data for children in households receiving ANFC benefits were provided by the Vermont Department of Social Welfare. Child population data were used in the denominator for rate calculations, and were obtained from the Census of Population and Housing for 1990 and Health Department estimates for 1993. The number of children in households receiving ANFC benefits refers to "snapshots" of April 1990 and April 1993. The percent of children in households receiving ANFC Benefits is calculated as the number of children in these households divided by the total child population and multiplied by 100.

Children in Households Receiving Food Stamp Benefits

Same as above, but substitute Food Stamps for ANFC.

Children in Single-Parent Families

Data for children in single-parent families are from the Census of Population and Housing STF1, 1980 and 1990. Children in single-parent families were counted in 1980 and 1990, and include all related children under 18 who live in families headed by a person without a spouse present in the home. The percent of children in single-parent families represents the number of children in single-parent families divided by the total resident population under 18, multiplied by 100.

Delinquent Children in Custody

Data on delinquent children in custody were provided by the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Child population data used in rate calculations are from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing and Vermont Department of Health estimates between Census surveys. The number of delinquent children in custody represents an average daily number of custody cases averaged again for the years 1989-1990 and 1991-1992. The Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services determines average daily custody cases by calculating the number of custody days (days between opening and closing dates) for each case, summing custody days for all cases, and dividing by the number of days in the year. Annual numbers of average daily custody cases were averaged for the years 1989-1990 and 1991-1992. Average daily rates of delinquent children in custody were calculated by adding the average daily number of custody cases for the two time periods and dividing by the sum of child population totals for the corresponding years. The resulting proportion was then multiplied by 10,000 to show the rate of delinquent children in custody per 10,000 children under 18.

Early Prenatal Care

Data on early prenatal care were obtained from Vermont Department of Health, Division of Public Health Analysis and Policy vital statistics files. Early prenatal care is defined as prenatal care received within the first trimester (three months) of pregnancy. Data are reported by the mother's residence. The number of mothers receiving early prenatal care is shown as a three-year average. The number of mothers who received early prenatal care was added for three-year periods and divided by the total number of live births for which prenatal care information was available. The resulting proportions were multiplied by 100 to indicate the percent of all mothers that received early prenatal care.

Educational Attainment of Adults

Data for the number and percent of people 25 years of age or older who have completed high school or a General Equivalency Diploma are from the Census of Population and Housing STF3, 1980 and 1990. These indicators include the number and percent of people 25 years of age or older whose highest degree was a high school diploma or its equivalent, persons who attended college or professional school, and persons who received a college, university, or professional degree. Persons who reported completing the 12th grade but not receiving a diploma are not included.

High School Dropouts

High school dropout data were provided by the Vermont Department of Education. The numbers of dropouts are shown as three-year averages for the school years 1980-1981 through 1982-1983 and 1990-1991 through 1992-1993. The total number of high school dropouts was added for the three-year periods and divided by the three-year totals of adjusted enrollments (enrollments adjusted for transfers and deaths). The calculated proportion was multiplied by 100 to show the percent of high school students who dropped out during the specified periods.

Infant Mortality

Data for infant mortality were compiled using vital statistics files of the Vermont Department of Health, Division of Public Health Analysis and Policy. Infant deaths include all deaths of babies less than one year of age. The number of infant deaths is shown as a three-year average. Infant mortality rates were calculated using the total number of infant deaths for three-year periods divided by the total number of live births for the same periods and the calculated proportion was multiplied by 1,000 to show the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births.

Low-Birthweight Babies

Data for low-birthweight babies were compiled using Vermont Department of Health, Division of Public Health Analysis and Policy vital statistics files. Low birthweight was defined as less than 5 1/2 pounds (2500 grams), and data were reported by mother's residence. The number of low-birthweight babies represents a three-year average. The total numbers of low-birthweight babies born in the three-year periods were added and then divided by the total number of live births for which birthweight information was available in the corresponding time periods. The calculated proportions were multiplied by 100 to indicate the percent of all babies that were born of low birthweight.

Neglect

Neglect data were provided by the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Child population data used in rate calculations are from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing and Health Department estimates for inter-censal years. The number of neglect cases represents a three-year average. Neglect rates were calculated using the total number of neglect cases in three-year periods and dividedd by the sum of the child populations for the corresponding years. The calculated proportion was multiplied by 10,000 to show the neglect rate per 10,000 children under 18.

New Families at Risk

Data for this indicator were compiled from vital statistics files of the Vermont Department of Health, Division of Public Health Analysis and Policy. First births to unmarried women under the age of 20 with less than 12 years of schooling represent the formation of "high-risk" families. The number of first births with these three risk factors is expressed as a three-year average. The total number of first births with three risk factors was summed for the three-year periods and used in the numerator for rate calculations. The total number of all first births for which complete data on mother's age, education, and marital status were available was used in the denominator. The calculated proportion was multiplied by 100 to show the percent of all new families formed at high socioeconomic risk.

Physical Abuse

Physical abuse data were provided by the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Child population data used in rate calculations are from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing and Health Department estimates for inter-censal years. The number of physical abuse cases represents a three-year average. Physical abuse rates were calculated using the total number of physical abuse cases in three-year periods divided by the sum of the child populations for the corresponding years. The calculated proportion was multiplied by 10,000 to show the physical abuse rate per 10,000 children under 18.

Racial and Ethnic Composition of Child Population

Data on race and ethnicity of children are from the Census of Population and Housing STF1, 1980 and 1990. Counts of children under 18 in 1980 and 1990 are shown for five Census Bureau race categories and Hispanic ethnicity. Because Hispanics comprise an ethnic group, they can be of any race. The sum of children in the five race categories equals the total number of children. Hispanic children are included within the race categories, but are also counted separately in the Hispanic ethnicity group.

Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse data were provided by the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Child population data used in the calculation of rates are from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing and Health Department estimates for inter-censal years. The number of sexual abuse cases represents a three-year average. Sexual abuse rates were calculated using the total number of sexual abuse cases in three-year periods divided by the sum of the child populations for the corresponding years. The calculated proportion was multiplied by 10,000 to show the sexual abuse rate per 10,000 children under 18.

Students Approved for Free and Reduced Lunches

Data on school meals programs were provided by the Vermont Department of Education, and represent the number and percent of public school students approved for free and reduced lunches in 1989 and 1993. Percentages were calculated by dividing the number of children approved for free and reduced lunches by total enrollment and multiplying by 100.

Teen Violent Deaths

Data for teen violent deaths were compiled from death record files provided by the Vermont Department of Health, Division of Public Health Analysis and Policy. Population data used in the calculation of rates were taken from the U.S. Census of Population and Housing for the years 1980 and 1990. Population data for inter-censal years were taken from population estimates provided by the Vermont Department of Health. Teen violent deaths are defined as deaths of teens ages 15 through 19 that occurred by accident, suicide, or homicide. The number of teen violent deaths is shown as a three-year average. The total numbers of teen violent deaths that occurred during three-year periods were added and divdied by the total number of teens in the 15-19 age group for the corresponding years. The calculated proportion was multiplied by 100,000 to show the rate of violent deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15 through 19.

Teens Not In School and Not in the Labor Force

Data for the number and percent of teens not in school and not in the labor force are from the Census of Population and Housing STF3, 1980 and 1990. Teens included in this indicator are those between the ages of 16 and 19 who were not enrolled in school (full or part-time); not in the labor force; and not in the Armed Forces. The percent of teens not in school and not in the labor force was calculated using the population ages 16 through 19 in the denominator and multiplying by 100.

Unmanageable Custody

Data on unmanageable children in custody were provided by the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Child population data used in rate calculations are from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing and Vermont Department of Health estimates between Census surveys. The number of unmanageable children in custody represents an average daily number of custody cases averaged again for the years 1989-1990 and 1991-1992. The Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services determines average daily custody cases by calculating the number of custody days (days between opening and closing dates) for each case, summing custody days for all cases, and dividing by the number of days in the year. Annual numbers of average daily custody cases were averaged for 1989-1990 and 1991-1992. Average daily rates of unmanageable children in custody were calculated by summing the average daily number of custody cases for the two time periods and dividing by the sum of child population totals for the corresponding years. The resulting proportion was then multiplied by 10,000 to show the rate of unmanageable children in custody per 10,000 children under 18.

Working Mothers with Youngest Child Under Age 6

Data for the number and percent of women in the labor force with youngest child under age 6 are from the Census of Population and Housing STF3, 1980 and 1990. This indicator measures the number and percent of women ages 16 and over (regardless of marital status) who are in the paid labor force, and whose youngest child is under age 6.

Working Mothers with Youngest Child Ages 6-17

Data for the number and percent of women in the labor force with youngest child ages 6-17 are from the Census of Population and Housing STF3, 1980 and 1990. This indicator measures the number and percent of women ages 16 and over (regardless of marital status) who are in the paid labor force, and whose youngest child is between the ages of 6 and 17.

Vermont Kids Count Data Book Internet Access

An important objective of Vermont KIDS COUNT is to make data on child well-being easily accessible. Last year's KIDS COUNT data book was one of the first state data books made available on the Internet. This year's data book will also be available on the Internet, and can be found by accessing the University of Vermont's gopher server at gopher.uvm.edu. At the main menu, choose "Vermont Gophers and Information Resources." On the next screen, choose "Center for Rural Studies Community Development Information." Kids Count data books are provided along with several other sources of data on your local community. Kids Count data books can also be found at the Center for Rural Studies World Wide Web page at http://www.uvm.edu/~cdae/crs.

Data files used to compile the information provided in the Kids Count data books are available to state government researchers and planners through an electronic database housed at the Vermont Department of Health. This database represents a significant movement toward increased collaboration and data sharing among the University of Vermont, state agencies, and the Vermont Children's Forum. Data are stored at the town level, and can therefore be easily aggregated to counties, supervisory unions, and program service areas.

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Endnotes

1. National Health/Education Consortium. "Eat to Learn, Learn to Eat: The Link Between Nutrition and Learning in Children." Washington, DC, June 1993.

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2. Part of the Vermont Children's Day Care Unit's (CDCU) mission is "to promote a positive and developmentally appropriate child care environment for Vermont's children,.... to ensure the health, safety and well being of children, and to encourage a working partnership among parents, providers and the CDCU...." Agency of Human Services. "Regulations For Family Day Care Homes and Children's Day Care Licensing Regulations For Early Childhood Programs." April 1993

3. University of Colorado at Denver, University of California at Los Angeles, University of North Carolina, Yale University. "Cost, Quality and Child Outcomes in Child Care Centers, Executive Summary." Jan 1995

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5. A Report by the Governor's Team on Dropout Prevention. "Dropouts in Vermont, A Charge for Action." March 1989.

6. Vermont Child Fatality Review Committee. "A Review of Deaths of Vermont Children." 1993 and 1994 Annual Reports.

7. Vermont SafeKids Coalition. "Safer Children: 2000 A Vermont Child Safety Plan. 1993. Primary prevention involves using all the necessary steps to prevent a disease, condition or poor outcome from occuring.

8. Vermont Department of Health. "Vital Statistics." 1990, 1991, 1992.

9. Vermont Children's Forum. "Injury Death Fact Sheet." 1994

10. In the 1990s the U.S. Public Health Service issued health objectives for the nation for the year 2000. Vermont issued the same goals for the year 2000.

11. The Future of Children. "Effectiveness of Health Care Services for Pregnant Infants and Children." Vol.2, No.2, U.S.A

12. In 1992, 85 percent of Vermont women began prenatal care in the first trimester. However, only 71.5 percent of pregnant teens entered prenatal care in the first trimester. (VT Dept. of Health)

13. According to the National Governor's Association Task Force on Teen Pregnancy, babies born to teenagers and their very young mothers are the single largest group at risk of poverty. Report of the Governor's Task Force for Prevention of Teen Pregnancy. "A Better Future for Vermont Teens." 1987

14. In 1992, 85 percent of Vermont women began prenatal care in the first trimester. However, only 71.5 percent of pregnant teens entered prenatal care in the first trimester. (VT Dept. of Health)

15. Children's Defense Fund. "Preventing Children Having Children." Clearinghouse Paper NO 1

16. According to 33 VSA Chapter 55 Child in Need of Supervision (CHINS) means "a child who has been abandoned or abused by his parents, guardian or other custodian; or is without proper parental care or subsistence, education, medical, or other care necessary for his well-being; or is without or beyond the control of his parents, guardian or other custodian..... (unmanageable)." "Delinquent act" means an act designated a crime under the laws of the state.

17. Family Preservation and Support Initiative summary notes that:
    a.) Current workload for social workers is 33% above capacity.
    b.) The overall number of children in custody has risen 16% between 1990 and 1993.
    c.) Current group residential services are fully utilized.
    Vermont Agency of Human Services.
    "Family Preservation Initiative." February 1994

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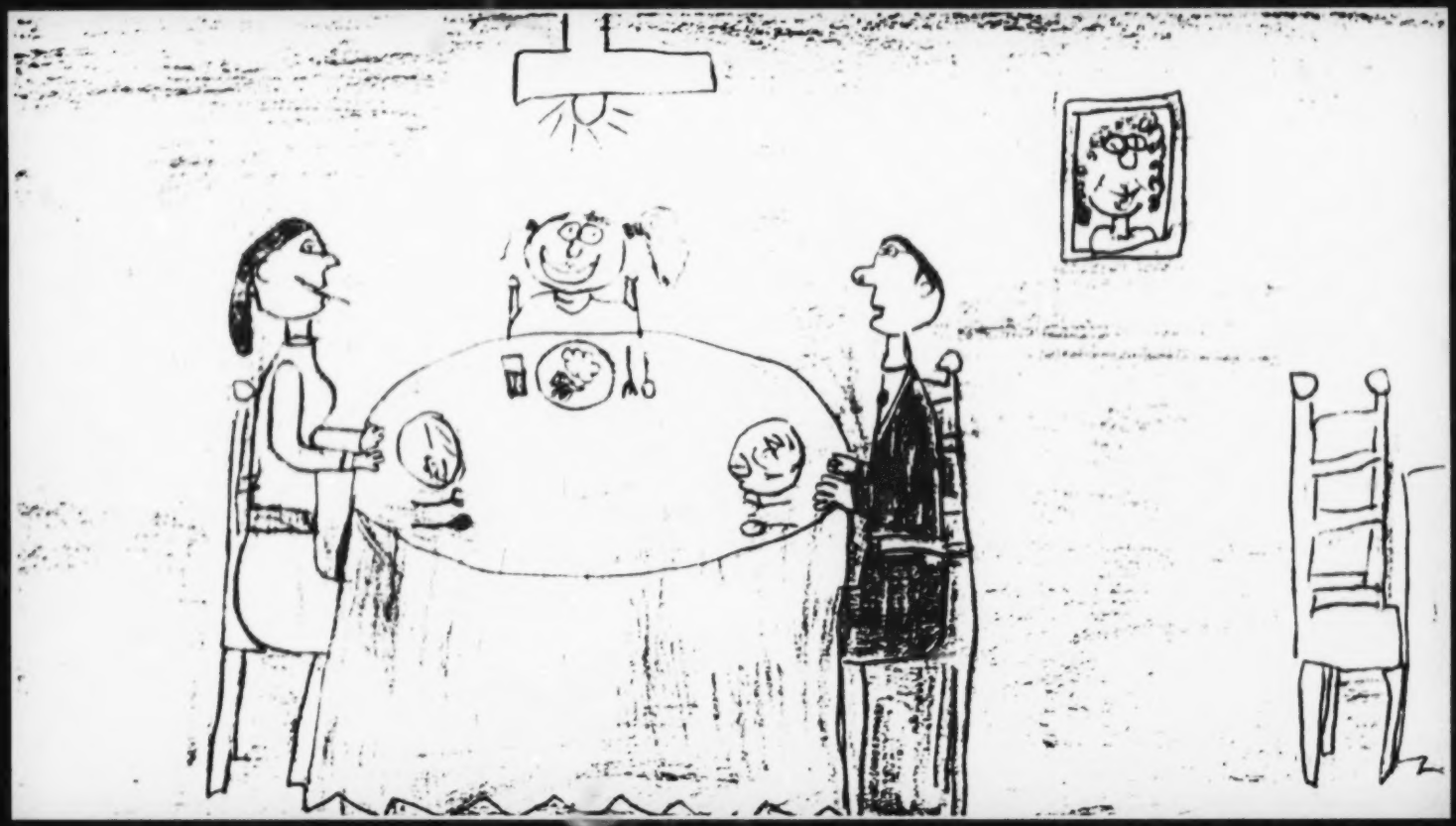
I would make the world better for kids by making the parents spend more time with there kids and let them know that they love them.



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